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PM thanks Holocaust survivors



IDF paratroopers light memorial candles in the Warsaw Ghetto Plaza at Yad Vashem last night, before the opening ceremony of Holocaust Martyrs' and Heroes' Remembrance Day. (Brian Hendler)

By ELLI WOHLGELERNTER

Holocaust Martyrs' and Heroes' Remembrance Day began last night at Jerusalem's Yad Vashem with a call to make amends to survivors of the genocide who 50 years ago helped create the state.

"This is the proper moment to express to them the gratitude of the entire nation," Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu said, before six survivors lit memorial torches for the six million Jews murdered by the Nazis.

Netanyahu to lead March of the Living, Page 4

Netanyahu admitted the lack of recognition on the part of native Israelis for the heroism shown by Holocaust survivors in the first years of the state. He thanked them for their contribution to the nation.

"We native born and veteran Israelis did not always understand and appreciate the enormity of their ordeal, and the immensity of the heroism that was again demanded of them on arrival here," said Netanyahu, in a strongly worded opening speech.

"This is the proper moment to put into words the appreciation of the entire nation. By the very fact of them being here with us, and their work and their involvement in all areas of activity in the country, they and their children embody the victory of life over death, the victory of righteousness over evil.

"And more than anything else, they embody the victory of the Jewish people and the eternity of Israel, which rose from amidst the ashes of destruction to start from the beginning and to grow afresh from what was cut down and uprooted there."

Netanyahu's speech departed from the prepared text, in which he specifically asked for forgiveness on the part of Israelis for the lack of understanding.

Holocaust Remembrance Day continues through today, marked by a two-minute siren at 10 a.m., immediately followed by a wreath-laying ceremony at Yad Vashem. All places of entertainment will be closed throughout the day.

In keeping with this year's theme – the contribution of Holocaust survivors to the creation of the State of Israel and their integration into society – the prime minister heralded the contribution made by the 250,000 survivors who came to Israel after the Holocaust.

With their help, he said, "we have built up a beautiful and successful country, in which there are today nearly five million Jewish people. These people, the surviving remnant of the Jewish people, went from one struggle to another, from the war for survival to the war of rebirth.

See HOLOCAUST, Page 7

AGENDA

The strengths born of weakness

"At the height of World War II, while the Nazis were methodically destroying our people, the Jews in Europe, the United States, and above all in the *yishuv* (the pre-state Jewish community in Palestine), seemed a pitiful lot, incapable of rescuing even some of the millions of victims being led to their final stations in the death camps.

"Contrary to the myth that Israel's revival is rooted in the Holocaust, the Nazi horrors almost prevented the establishment of the state, as the annihilation of European Jewry almost cut off the process which led to the founding of the State of Israel.

"Yet the trauma of the Holocaust is very much alive and continues to pervade the renewal of Jewish sovereignty in its land. It is reflected in the culture, art, theater, in the perverse daily use of the term Nazi or Gestapo."

These were the main points of a lecture delivered by Holocaust researcher Prof. Yehuda Bauer to members of the IDF General Staff on Monday at its weekly meeting which was held at the Yad Vashem Holocaust Memorial.

See AGENDA, Page 6

Panel: Pardons should go to hard-timers

By BATSHEVA TSUR

Prisoners serving prolonged sentences should be the main beneficiaries of pardons in honor of Israel's jubilee, a committee advising the president recommended yesterday.

The committee, headed by former attorney-general Yona Blatman, urged preferences for those already being considered by parole boards for a one-third reduction of their sentences for good behavior.

The findings appeared to put an end to the possibility of a general amnesty cutting across prisoner categories for next week's Independence Day celebration.

"We suggest a formula of 'a third plus,' said Blatman, who handed the recommendations yesterday evening to President Ezer Weizman at a ceremony at Beit Hanassi. He said he was referring to prisoners who were already serving their terms and had in effect spent 60 percent of their time behind bars.

"Waiting 18 years for such a [criminal] record to be cancelled is too long. It often prevents rehabilitation," Blatman said.

Despite expectations to the contrary, the committee did not propose that the president annul traffic fines or punishments in which licenses had been revoked. "The war against road accidents has to be waged every year and this year is no different in that respect," Blatman said.

See PARDONS, Page 7

Coalition talks with Moledet on hold

By SARAH HONIG

Talks aimed at bringing Moledet into the coalition have been put on hold until the beginning of next week, it was announced yesterday.

The negotiations were not completed by early yesterday morning and since Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu and Moledet MK Benny Elon were both flying to Poland for the March of the Living, there is no earlier opportunity to resume the talks.

Some Likud sources expressed apprehension yesterday that the prolonged process may lead to its ultimate undoing. The longer it takes to tie the loose ends, the more opponents will have time to become emboldened and speak out against it, they said.

Netanyahu, according to these sources, has gotten into political scrapes and dead ends before when he failed to finalize things quickly.

When Netanyahu first took the political arena by surprise Monday and announced that he was working on a deal with Moledet leader Rehavam Ze'evi, no one in the coalition voiced any opposition.

The impression then was that the deal was final. When it appeared that this was not quite so, an increasing number of MKs gave vent to their objections.

Personal interests are also at stake. Those hoping to win the one empty cabinet seat do not want it to go to Ze'evi instead.

Thus, the thinking in some Likud quarters is that the longer the process drags on the more opponents will band together against it. What could have been a simple fait accompli could become hopelessly bogged down.

The thinking in both Likud and Moledet Tuesday night was that the deal was about to be finalized. Netanyahu, Ze'evi, and Elon started their talks very late at night after attending a Druse ceremony in the North, but broke them off inconclusively at 4 a.m. yesterday.

Several sources maintain that the issue of what portfolio to award Ze'evi never even came up. It is still not clear whether Ze'evi will get a portfolio.

Netanyahu would be hard pressed to find a minister willing to surrender any responsibilities to Ze'evi unless a promotion were involved.

The only portfolio Netanyahu has to maneuver with is that of foreign affairs, which was relinquished by Gesher MK David Levy in January. Since then the portfolio has remained in Netanyahu's hands.

The major problem encountered by negotiators yesterday was how to impart the impression that Moledet accepts the government's guidelines, while remaining free to vote against decisions involving the Oslo process. The original understanding with Netanyahu is that Moledet can vote against government policy but must not vote no-confidence.

Elon had expressed discomfort "with the notion of voting confidence in a government which would give away tracts of the Land of Israel. We have an undertaking to our voters to oppose this."

This position was seen as the harbinger of a possible break with Ze'evi, but Elon yesterday took great pains to deny this.

He said that "the reporter who would drive a wedge between me and Ghandi [Ze'evi] has not yet been born. We have worked harmoniously over the past two years and will continue to do so. I find the idea of a government of the national camp approaching Moledet to join it and considering our contribution desirable, a very positive development."

Ze'evi issued a statement asserting that he stands "firm by my commitment to oppose vigorously the yielding of any part of Eretz Yisrael."

In Netanyahu's camp, predictions about the outcome of the talks continued to be upbeat, despite the increasing numbers of MKs coming out against the projected deal.

Third Way MK Emanuel Zissman said that "the co-optation of Moledet into the coalition would spell the end of the Oslo process. It would sound its death knell."

Another Third Way MK, Alex Lubotsky, suggested that his party impose a veto on Moledet's entry into the coalition.

"The coalition agreement confers on every member party the right to impose such a veto. I say this though I have nothing personally against the Moledet MKs nor against their movement. But during the recent Labor administration I opposed the sharp leftward lurch of the government. I do not want to see now a corresponding tilt rightward."

Internal Security Minister Avigdor Kahalani of the Third Way opined that his party "will not stand in the way of Moledet's co-optation.

"We should want this government bolstered. Moledet will not change the basic balance and what matters to us is the continuation of the peace process."

Study: Antisemitic violence continues to decline

By ARYEH DEAN COHEN

The overall level of antisemitic violence worldwide dropped again last year, but the publication of antisemitic propaganda, particularly via the Internet, increased significantly, according to "*Anti-Semitism Worldwide, 1997/8*," an abstract of which was released yesterday.

The study, prepared jointly by Tel Aviv University's Project for the Study of Anti-Semitism, the Anti-Defamation League and the World Jewish Congress, shows that Jews around the world may be facing fewer physical attacks, but still regularly encounter Holocaust-deniers and other forms of antisemitism.

The drop in violent incidents also means that Jews must learn to "live without the physical threat of antisemitism," Avi Beker, executive manager of the WJC's office in Israel, said. The current situation, he explained, "is good for the Jews, but bad for Judaism... Today the challenge is really how to maintain Judaism in a positive sense, and not really to assimilate and disappear without this physical threat of antisemitism."

While there was an increase in the number of serious attacks against Jews, such as arson, shootings, knifings and explosions from 32 worldwide in 1996 to 38 last year, the figure was still far below that of 1994, which was 72. Moreover, there was a significant drop in attacks without the use of a weapon or damage to property, from 165 in 1996 to 113 last year.

Despite the increase in more serious violence last year, "we don't foresee it coming back to the high level that existed in 1993 and 1994, when violence was really at its peak," said Dr. Dina Porat, head of the project, who is slated to head the university's Stephen Roth Institute for the Study of Contemporary Anti-Semitism and Racism, which is expected to be being founded next week.

The one striking exception worldwide was Germany, where antisemitic activities were up by 15-20%. In eastern German cities like Dresden, "nationally liberated zones" shut to foreigners, leftists and homosexuals, have been created, Porat explained.

Porat said German officials were doing less than they were a year ago to limit such activity. The disappointment of those in the east with the pace of their integration into the rest of Germany, has also contributed to the growing hatred, Porat said.

The strength of right-wing groups throughout Europe, particularly in France and Austria, indicate there is still a potential for another wave of antisemitism in western Europe, the center's Roni Stauber said.

Antisemitic incidents in the US – as was the case in the rest of the Anglo-Saxon world – declined for the third year in a row, to 1,571 incidents, down 8.8%, but included events like the placing of an incendiary device under a window at a Philadelphia day school and the setting on fire of two Los Angeles synagogues.

However, the major threats lie elsewhere, chiefly in material available on the Internet, where the number of sites offering antisemitic material doubled last year.

Rabbi David Rosen, Director of the Anti-Defamation League's Israel Office, explained that the Internet was being increasingly used "as a vehicle for spewing almost unlimited hatred and especially Holocaust-denial. This has become a major concern in terms of hate dissemination and crimes perpetrated as a result of that dissemination."

The Ku Klux Klan expanded its use of the Internet to gain new members this year, along with veteran Holocaust denier Bradley Smith.

Rosen also noted how it requires only a small number of people to spread such information on the Internet, including such chilling data as outlines for making explosives. Rosen said attempts were being made to find allies in the computer industry to respond to such material.

There has been a growth of antisemitic manifestations on US college campuses, Rosen said, particularly on black university campuses. However, this does not represent the overall black university population, just as Louis Farrakhan represents only 20 percent of the Black Muslim population in the US, Rosen said.

See STUDY Page 7

Thai worker accused of Regev murder

By MICHAL YUDELMAN

Police said yesterday that DNA tests performed on 29-year-old Thai worker Korbua Sumbat supported their suspicions that he had raped and murdered 23-year-old Yamit Regev of Kibbutz Na'an on the night of the Seder.

Sumbat was remanded by the Ramle Magistrate's Court for another 12 days yesterday, after the prosecution produced results of DNA tests which found a match between genetic material taken from the suspect's mouth lesions with semen found on Regev's body.

Foreign workers in Israel, Page 3

The suspect's attorney, Moshe Aloni, denied the charges and accused police of violating his client's rights.

Police believe that Regev spent the night of April 10 at the kibbutz pub, left at about 2 a.m. and then disappeared. A search was mounted for her the next day, when she failed to appear at her family's gathering at the kibbutz.

Her body was found in a wheat field at the entrance to the kibbutz, where she had been dragged the night before, raped and murdered. Police central district commander Supt. Ze'ev Even Hen, who summed up the investigation at a press conference yesterday, said that police had suspected Sumbat from the start after finding contradictions between his alibi and testimony given by others.

Sumbat had denied being in the pub that night, but his friends refuted his alibi and said that he had.

More than 2,000 people had come to Kibbutz Na'an on Seder night.

Police investigators questioned dozens of foreign workers and ulpan students staying at the kibbutz and took lesion samples from a number of them to compare with DNA from the semen taken from the victim's body.

The detectives' suspicions of Sumbat strengthened when, during the suspect's second interrogation earlier this week, he tried to escape. He was caught a kilometer and a half away after a brief chase.

Later he confessed and reenacted



Korbua Sumbat (Yael Somekh/Israel Sun)

the crime, and all the police were waiting for were the DNA test results, Even Hen said.

Asked why he murdered the victim, instead of just raping her, the suspect reportedly answered, "because she screamed."

Dr. Maya Freund, of the Abu Kabir Forensic Institute, said, "Our conclusions from the tests are that the semen profile found in the victim's body corresponds with the genetic profile produced from the suspect's mouth lesions. This correspondence means there is an extremely high probability the semen source is this suspect."

The suspect, who is married and a father of two, arrived in Israel about 10 months ago with a group of Thai workers brought by the Ashkelon-based personnel company Amit. He came to Na'an two months ago, where he worked in irrigation, avocado fields and citrus orchards.

Even Hen said the police was in contact with Israel Police representatives in Thailand to get full details on the suspect's background and past.

Even Hen denied the allegation that Sumbat was not interrogated fairly or that he admitted to the crime under pressure.

NEWS
in brief

Arab countries sign first anti-terrorism pact

Arab countries yesterday signed the first regional pact on fighting terrorism, but made it clear that militants who target Israel will not be considered terrorists. The pact, signed in Egypt by interior or justice ministers from Arab League member states, calls on Arab countries to deny refuge, training and financial or military support to groups that launch attacks on other Arab nations. Member nations "should not allow their lands to be used as theaters for plotting or the execution and organization of terrorist crimes," the treaty says. An official statement said the pact will help the Arab world "direct its energies" toward economic development. *AP*

US plans to sell Israel AMRAAM air-to-air missiles

The US plans to sell to Israel 64 air-to-air AMRAAM missiles and related equipment and training, in a $28 million deal.

It also intends to sell $115 million of goods, principally 1,500 upgraded AIM-9L missiles, to Saudi Arabia.

In a statement, the Pentagon said that Israel needs the missiles "to enhance the air-to-air self-defense capability of its F-15 aircraft and provide for an increase in interoperability with US forces." *Hillel Kuttler*

Egyptian-PA talks focus on stalled negotiations

Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat met with Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak yesterday and discussed the US efforts to nudge forward stalled peace negotiations. Egyptian Foreign Minister Amr Moussa said afterwards that the two leaders agreed to meet again following May 4 negotiations in London between Israel and the Palestinians. "The Palestinian side has accepted the American initiative... but the problem lies with the Israeli government," Moussa said. Moussa said that planned talks in Cairo next Tuesday between Mubarak and Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu would focus on "what is going in the Middle East peace and the dangers that threaten its collapse." *AP*

Annan warns of more violence

UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan said yesterday there was concern that the current impasse in the peace talks between Israel and the Palestinians could lead to further violence in the region. He said during a visit to Los Angeles that there was "considerable frustration" among Arab leaders at the lack of progress in the peace process, adding, "There are those who are concerned that if we do not make progress ... desperate people will resort to violence again." *Reuters*

Canada setting up aid office on West Bank

Canada announced yesterday it would set up a representative office in Ramallah and give a modest amount of aid to help Palestinians as a way of encouraging refugees during often difficult negotiations. The office will deal with economic and social issues on the West Bank and in Gaza but will not deal with political or consular issues. Foreign Minister Lloyd Axworthy, announcing the move at a news conference, also said Canada would give C$7.1 million in aid. *Reuters*

Lebanon explains rejection of pullout plan

Lebanese Foreign Minister Faris Bouez met ambassadors of the five permanent members of the United Nations Security Council yesterday to explain Beirut's rejection of Israel's offer of a conditional pullout from south Lebanon. "We reject any amendment or interpretation of this resolution," he told reporters in Beirut afterwards. Bouez said Israel's unconditional implementation "is the only way to reach stability and security in south Lebanon." *Reuters*

Independence Day demo planned at Har Homa

Representatives of the 1,200 families who have signed up to move to Har Homa have planned a symbolic cornerstone laying ceremony for the site on Independence Day. Avi Shmidt, head of one of the five organizations sponsoring the ceremony, said the purpose was "to make the government start building in Har Homa." Shmidt said he was expecting tens of thousands of participants, including some Labor MKs. He said that a march from East Talpiot to the site also was planned. *Elli Wohlgelernter*

Jerusalem man killed by speeding car

Jerusalem resident Nahman Label, 54, was killed yesterday when he was run over by a car speeding on Route 1. The car, which belongs to a security company, hit the pedestrian as he crossed the road near the Rehov Hanevi'im intersection. He was killed instantly. The driver of the car was detained for questioning and his license was suspended for 90 days. *Itim*

First Arab peace group founded

By JAY BUSHINSKY

Government officials welcomed the establishment of Egypt's new peace movement yesterday, but were taken aback by its outspoken criticism of Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu's handling of the peace process.

The ambivalent response at the government level was contrasted, however, by the unequivocal and enthusiastic approval of the Cairo Peace Movement expressed by several prominent experts in Middle Eastern affairs.

"It is a very positive development," said Shimon Shamir, a Tel Aviv University professor who served as ambassador to Egypt and Jordan. "This really is a revolution and it has occurred at one of the most difficult periods in recent years."

The sharp differences in evaluation were prompted by the new group's opening declaration of intent. It said its aim is "to confront the increasing dangers that face the peace process due to Likud coalition policies." A statement issued in Cairo said the movement also is "an expression of the Egyptian public opinion in its belief that peace will never be achieved through the provocative, immoral, and illegal attitudes of the present Israeli government."

Foreign Ministry spokesman Aviv Shir-On took exception to the negative comments about the Netanyahu government, but took a favorable approach to the Egyptian group's formation and composition.

"We welcome every action whose purpose is the advancement of peace and bless the formation of a group that is striving for peace," he said. "But we regret that certain elements are exploiting such events to express blatant and superfluous criticism, the purpose of which is to hurt the government of Israel despite its effort to move the peace process forward in every way possible."

Haifa University's Yosef Ginat, a former director of the Israeli academic center in Cairo, said it is "very important" that the new group has emerged from the "silent majority" of intellectuals and former government officials who favor peace with Israel.

He stressed the involvement of Lutfi Kholi, a representative of left-wing Egyptian thinking. He said Kholi's example "may encourage deeper consideration of the advantages of peace among many Egyptian circles which have not been thinking along these lines." Ginat pointed out that Kholi visited Israel recently and was subjected to hostile comment for doing so upon his return to Egypt.

Shamir was unfazed by the Cairo Peace Movement's rhetorical assault on Netanyahu and his government. "Isn't the Israeli peace movement doing the same?" he asked rhetorically.

The ex-ambassador recalled that the group's founders withstood fierce attacks in Egypt's opposition press upon their return from Copenhagen, where they joined Israeli colleagues in pursuing the cause of peace.

He placed particular importance on the fact that prominent figures such as Abdul Moneim Said, head of the prestigious Al-Ahram Institute, are among the movement's charter members. "Here for the first time, first-rate Egyptian intellectuals have come out for peace."

The movement's chairman, Salah Bassiouny, a former ambassador to Moscow, told a Cairo news conference that "every effort is needed to confront and condemn Netanyahu's policies. This is the first peace camp in Egypt. We want to contact similar peace movements in Israel, Europe, and the US and create an effective public opinion in favor of a just and comprehensive peace settlement."



Warsaw memorial

Israeli schoolgirls in Warsaw take part in a Holocaust remembrance ceremony last night at the memorial to the 1943 Warsaw Ghetto Uprising. (AP)

NEWSLINE
with Dr. Yoram Meital

Dr. Yoram Meital is an expert on Egyptian affairs and lectures at Ben-Gurion University's Department of Middle Eastern Studies.

Is the concept of an Egyptian Peace Now movement realistic, or a public relations exercise?

I believe it is a serious effort, even though it is not a novel or new initiative. Two years ago, a peace group known as the Copenhagen Declaration Group was established and composed of public figures from Egypt, Jordan, the Palestinian Authority and Israel.

The aim then was to try and organize a new dialogue between peoples from these former belligerent states.

This group has been working over the past two years but did not achieve its main goal of rallying massive support for peace within Arab and Israeli societies, despite several meetings.

This new initiative, which concentrates only on Egypt and is to be called the Cairo Peace Movement, is nevertheless a continuation of the same efforts by almost the same people in Egypt.

Is the composition of the new group and the timing of its establishment significant?

There are some very distinguished and famous people in Egyptian society in this new group, including former diplomats, generals, journalists, academics and others. The chairman of the new group is Salah Bassiouny, Egypt's former ambassador to Russia, a veteran diplomat and famous lawyer, who is well-known in Egyptian society.

His agenda is that this movement should not leave the peace process just to the decision-makers and the politicians. The timing is also significant.

Everyone is aware of the stalemate in the peace process and it is very interesting to see a group of Egyptians who are involved in various aspects of the process and writing extensively about it, forming a group of this kind at such a sensitive time in the process.

Does the new group have the backing of the Egyptian government and does its formation at this time reflect perhaps concern over the state of the peace process?

I believe that these people are working with the blessing and maybe the support of the government. From what I heard, they have applied for official approval. When I met with Salah Bassiouny three weeks ago he told me that they had just received formal approval.

There is also a great deal of concern over the peace process which is in the strategic interests of Egypt and not just Israel and the Palestinians. As long as it continues, Egypt's interests, on the security level, the question of continuing US aid, economic support and social and political reforms, are being preserved. It is extremely important to them for this process to continue and to progress.

They are trying here to say something in a different way to the general public in Israel – that there are many people in Egypt who support peace and want a dialogue with the peace camp in Israel. They are seeking the cooperation of the peace supporters here and asking their help in trying to influence public opinion and even the government by joining in this initiative.

What does the establishment of the Cairo peace group mean from Israel's point of view?

It shows that there are people in Egypt, maybe even decision-makers, who believe that they must work and participate in trying to convince others in Egypt and Israel to support what they believe is best for the region – the peace process.

It also breaks down the stereotype that some people have here that the Egyptian intelligentsia is a monolithic bloc that either opposes peace or has reservations about Israel and its policies. It should also be noted that the people involved in this group risk coming under criticism from their colleagues in Egypt and the Arab world. They are aware of the risk, but still have the motivation to go forward with this initiative. *David Rudge*

IDF soldier lightly wounded in mortar attack

By DAVID RUDGE

An IDF soldier was lightly hurt yesterday in a long-range mortar attack on an army outpost near Ras Bayadda, on the coastal sector of the security zone.

Several mortar rounds reportedly hit the position, causing some damage and wounding the soldier by a fragment in the collar bone. He was evacuated to Nahariya Government Hospital. Hizbullah claimed responsibility for the attack.

In another incident, a South Lebanese Army soldier was seriously wounded by a roadside bomb in the Jezzine enclave, north of the zone. He was evacuated by helicopter to Haifa's Rambam Hospital.

The Grapes of Wrath monitoring group is scheduled to convene at UNIFIL headquarters in Nakoura today to discuss complaints from Israel and Lebanon about recent breaches of the understandings.

Israel's complaints relate to the death of a civilian resident of the zone in an Hizbullah roadside bomb attack near Markabeh village earlier this month and the wounding of a woman in Rehan village as a result of a mortar round fired from north of the zone.

Lebanon has protested about the wounding of a civilian near Nabatiya and damage to property as a result of IDF or SLA shelling.

Israel denies signing accord with Turkey

By STEVE RODAN

Government officials denied yesterday that Israel has signed a memorandum of understanding with Turkey to explore the possibility of helping Ankara develop an anti-ballistic missile defense system modeled after the Arrow.

The officials said Israel and Turkey have discussed anti-missile defense systems, but have not concluded a cooperation agreement.

On Monday, the *Turkish Daily News* reported that Israel and Turkey had signed a memorandum in March to study the feasibility of developing a Turkish anti-missile defense program, in coordination with the US, which since 1988 has largely financed the Arrow's development.

The newspaper said the memorandum was signed by Brig.-Gen. (res.) Yossi Ben-Hannan, director of the Defense Ministry's Sibat export agency.

Israeli and Turkish officials acknowledge that Ankara has closely followed the Arrow program and has expressed interest in eventually obtaining technology for intercepting ballistic missiles. But they said Ankara prefers to wait until the Arrow program is completed and the system is deployed.

"The key is US support for the project," a diplomat said. "The belief is that helping Turkey with an Arrow-type project was one of the subjects of discussion between [Defense Minister Yitzhak] Mordechai and [US Defense Secretary William] Cohen on Monday." The officials said the Arrow was discussed at the annual meeting between Turkish and Israeli defense representatives in Ankara late last month.

"Turkey has become aware of the dangers of ballistic missiles, despite it being a huge country," a Turkish defense source said. "The Arrow program is the only one that is making significant progress and we are exploring how such a system, when it is completed, will fit our needs."

Other topics at the March meeting included the joint Israeli-Turkish production of a main battle tank for Ankara, Israeli sale of airborne early warning systems, and an Israeli security network in southeast Asia.

The largest program is Turkey's production of a new main battle tank. The Turks are planning to spend $5 billion to produce 1,000 tanks and next year aim to open the competition in earnest.

Israeli and Turkish officials said they are exploring two possibilities. One is Turkish production of the Merkava MK III tank, Israel's latest. Another is upgrading Turkey's M-60 tanks. TAAS-Israel Industries, which is offering to replace the tank's 105mm gun with a 120mm gun, is said to be the favorite in the forthcoming competition.

Arafat fails to meet with Hamas leader Yassin

By STEVE RODAN and MOHAMMED NAJIB

Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat returned to Gaza yesterday from Saudi Arabia, saying he had failed to meet there with Hamas leader Ahmed Yassin.

Palestinian sources said that Yassin had apparently rebuffed an overture for a meeting, while Arafat said there was simply no time for it. Hamas sources said, however, that Yassin would never have agreed to public talks with Arafat given the latest arrests and the PA investigation which blamed Hamas for the death of its bombmaker Muhi Sharif.

"I don't think Sheik Yassin would have avoided a meeting with Arafat," a senior Hamas activist said. "But whether he would have wanted a public meeting is something else."

Yassin is planning to meet with Syrian leaders in Damascus, according to Mohammed Nazal, the Hamas spokesman in Amman.

The London-based *Al-Quds al Arabi* reported, meanwhile, that Hamas is exploring the possibility of moving its base to Syria.

"We respect the laws of Jordan and our ties with them are good," Hamas political bureau head Khaled Mashaal was quoted as telling the newspaper. "But we don't want to embarrass it. The movement is examining other options."

According to Arab sources, Jordan is finding it increasingly difficult to answer PA accusations that King Hussein is using the Islamic opposition to undermine Arafat's authority.

Vanunu parole delayed

By BATSHEVA TSUR and news agencies

After sitting for almost five hours, the parole board hearing the request from nuclear spy Mordechai Vanunu failed to reach a decision yesterday and put off further hearings until next week.

The board had been expected to reject the parole request, but the unexpected move suggested that the request was being given serious consideration.

Another hearing was scheduled for May 4 at the Shikma Prison near Ashkelon.

Vanunu, a former nuclear technician, has served two-thirds of his 18-year sentence for passing Israeli atomic secrets to *The Sunday Times* of London.

His lawyer, Avigdor Feldman, said earlier that Vanunu did not plan to express remorse. Feldman expressed pessimism over the likelihood of parole saying that he believed there could be objections by the General Security Service.

The parole board, headed by retired judge Amiram Danenberg, met behind closed doors in a small officers' club room at the prison. A dozen demonstrators chanted "free Vanunu" outside the gate.

Vanunu was at the hearing. Feldman argued that his client was a prisoner of conscience who had suffered enough after 12 years in solitary confinement.

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Settler recounts Maon attack

By MARGOT DUDKEVITCH

Police, IDF, and General Security Service forces arrested 10 Palestinians in the Yatta area late Tuesday night whom they believe were involved in the murder of Dov Driben and the wounding of Yehoshefat Tor and Ephraim Pearl in Maon on Sunday.

Judea and Samaria police spokesman Opher Sivan said Tuesday's arrests bring the total number of suspects held to 17.

Pearl said yesterday the Arab shepherds attacked the three in what appeared to have been a planned ambush. Sivan declined to respond to Pearl's allegations, noting the investigation is still under way.

Palestinian sources claim 38 Palestinians were arrested by Israeli security forces, but said the majority have been released. They said that on Tuesday night the security forces searched some 30 houses in Yatta and questioned the occupants.

Pearl told Arutz 7 radio that he was working with Tor at the Maon ranch when Driben arrived about 8:30 a.m. They noticed three shepherds approaching with a herd of goats.

"We were working and we can't have Arabs wandering through the ranch – they can come up from behind us and stab us – so we told them to go away," Pearl said. The three settlers walked towards the Arab shepherds, he said.

"Sud-denly the three jumped Dov and started hitting him. I ran towards him to help him, when someone jumped me from behind," he said.

More Arabs who had apparently been hiding nearby appeared, and three or four attacked Driben and two or three attacked him and Tor, he said. One Arab man, about 40 years old, struck him on the head with a large rock.

"I grabbed my gun in my hand and then I lost consciousness," he said. "I think I was out for a few seconds, when suddenly I heard shots fired from both sides."

An Arab took Tor's gun as well as his own, said Pearl; Driben was unarmed. Tor called out to him to get their M-16 from the house some 120 meters away. Racing back to the scene, Pearl fired at one Arab, but the rest had fled. Tor had been shot in the leg and his jaw smashed; Driben had been shot several times and beaten. The two attempted to resuscitate him and called for help.

Steve Rodan adds:

In Hebron yesterday, Palestinian Police officers said Driben was shot to death by a gun wielded by another settler. Col. Tareq Zaid, police commander of the Hebron region, told a news conference his investigation has concluded that Driben was not killed by any of the nine Palestinians who brought their flock to the Maon ranch on Sunday.

Instead, Zaid said, Driben was struck by bullets from a weapon wielded by one of his colleagues as they tried to drive off the Palestinians. He said his investigation was based on eyewitness and other evidence.

Israeli police sources immediately dismissed Zaid's assertion.



Peace Prevails

A model demonstrates the Oslo Accords are still in fashion at a show in Tel Aviv this week marking the jubilee. (Gideon Markowicz)

Northern leaders to discuss joblessness

By DAVID RUDGE

Heads of northern development towns made plans yesterday to hold an emergency meeting next week over what they described as a growing unemployment crisis.

"This will be the only matter on the agenda," said Ma'alot-Tarshiha Mayor Shlomo Buhbut, who also heads the forum of confrontation line communities.

"Unemployment is growing throughout the region and the reasons are simple – the recession and the policies of the government and in particular those of the finance minister and governor of the Bank of Israel," said Buhbut.

He said that a "decision to reduce capital investment incentive grants from 38 percent to 24% has dealt a death blow to development towns."

"Investors are not coming to the distant periphery, especially the far north, because they say it does not pay them to set up businesses or factories so far away from the center of the country," he continued.

Buhbut maintained that the unemployment rate in his own town, nearby Shlomi and Upper Nazareth, was nearly 11% of the working population and higher than 8% in such places as Beit She'an and Hatzor.

"We will still be celebrating the state's jubilee, despite the black cloud that is hovering over us, but we will be pressing for urgent action," Buhbut added.

Ministers urge steps to 'rescue' economy

By NINA GILBERT

Ministers voiced concern over growing unemployment yesterday, and called for greater efforts by the government to redress the problem.

The government "should convene an urgent meeting about rising unemployment to formulate substantive measures to rescue the economy" from recession, Industry and Trade Minister Natan Sharansky said in a statement yesterday.

Tourism Minister Moshe Katsav said last month's negative consumer price index is a "sign of a negative economic situation. It is economically and socially harmful." Five of the last seven monthly CPI's have been negative.

"It is better to give up on half a percent of budget deficit or inflation and to prevent an increase in half a percent in poverty or unemployment," he said.

"The Bank of Israel's policy is incorrect," he added, referring to its adherence to a tight monetary policy which keeps interest rates high in a bid to curb inflation. "I'm afraid that I can't say that the government is doing enough to fight unemployment and the recession."

Meanwhile, Gesher MK David Levy told Army Radio that the government's economic policy is causing a "social conflagration."

"This government is helpless and going nowhere," he said. "How will people celebrate the 50th anniversary of the country when they are thrown in the streets?

"The government is only concerned on how to survive and not how the economy will survive," he said.

Sharansky said that he has given his ministry instructions to give top priority to high unemployment areas.

Eitan: Murder won't affect policy on Thais

By MICHAL YUDELMAN

Agriculture Minister Rafael Eitan said yesterday that the murder of Yamit Regev at Kibbutz Na'an is a terrible tragedy, but it would not affect the government's policy on bringing laborers here from Thailand. There have been no complaints against these workers, who are an excellent substitute for Palestinian or Israeli agricultural workers, he said.

Nearly 19,000 Thais are employed here in the agriculture sector, he said.

However, Labor and Social Affairs Minister Eli Yishai said in response to the news a Thai worker would be charged in the murder that he had foreseen a rise in crime from the use of foreign laborers.

"I am acting vigorously to reduce to a minimum the permits granted for employing foreign workers without harming Israel's economy and also to expel as many as possible of those who are here without a permit," Yishai said.

The man suspected of murdering Regev, Korbua Sumbat, was in Kibbutz Na'an with seven other workers. They were staying in rooms that were separated from the kibbutz members' quarters and are not involved in kibbutz activities.

After the murder, the seven other workers were confined to their quarters, under guard, after work.

"We'll have to decide what to do with this group, and create a sense of security in the kibbutz, and at the same time avoid creating ethnic stereotypes," kibbutz secretary Yair Shavit said.

He said there was a sense of relief at the kibbutz after the suspect was arrested and taken away.

Regev's murder is very painful and severe but an exception to the rule, said MK Shalom Simhon (Labor), secretary of the moshav movement, which is responsible for bringing Thai workers here.

"I suggest not to stigmatize Thai workers, who are generally very dedicated, hard working and quiet.

"We've had good experience with Thai workers for more than 10 years and have developed pleasant relations with them. They come and leave on time and we've had no problems with them or complaints against them. They have brought much security and calm to the agriculture and restaurant business, which was missing before they came.

"I would not suggest to Kibbutz Na'an to brand them or impose a curfew on them," he said.

US wants alleged Nazi criminal tried in Croatia

By JAY BUSHINSKY and AP

The US is taking an active interest in the case of fugitive Croatian war crimes suspect Dinko Sakic, allegedly the ex-commandant of the Jasenovac death camp where 500,000 persons perished in World War II.

An American embassy official yesterday told Eytan Bentsur, the director-general of the foreign ministry, that the US wants Sakic, 76, extradited from Argentina to stand trial in Croatia.

Sakic, whose presence in Argentina for 47 years was revealed earlier this month, vanished immediately after a warrant was issued there for his arrest. Belgrade has also said it would seek Sakic's extradition.

The first Israeli ambassador to Croatia, Nathan Meron, presented his credentials yesterday to President Franjo Tudjman. Croatia and Israel agreed to establish diplomatic ties last August after Tudjman said he would visit Israel and apologize for his nation's persecution of Jews during World War II. Croatia's ambassador to Israel has already assumed his post.

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DAN HOTELS

PM to head 'March of the Living'

By JAY BUSHINSKY

Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu, members of his cabinet and other dignitaries are to join an estimated 7,000 participants in the "March of the Living" today from Auschwitz to the nearby site of the Birkenau death camp, in memory of the 1.5 million victims of the Nazi genocide there.

With him in the procession of Jewish survivors, witnesses and young people from 46 countries, will be Communications Minister Limor Livnat, Education Minister Yitzhak Levy, Finance Minister Yaakov Neeman and Tourism Minister Moshe Katzav.

A Knesset delegation headed by former speaker Shevah Weiss and including Avraham Hirschenson (Likud), who initiated the annual event, arrived in Poland earlier this week to coordinate with Polish officials due to attend the event, among them Prime Minister Jerzy Buzek.

Chief Ashkenazi Rabbi Israel Meir Lau, who survived the Buchenwald death camp, is also in Poland for memorial activities.

Buzek urged fellow Poles yesterday to show respect when Netanyahu leads the procession, Reuters said.

The news agency reported that "some Roman Catholics and rightists in the region" surrounding Auschwitz and Birkenau were angered by Jewish demands that a large cross erected near Auschwitz be removed.

It raised the possibility that organized prayers or protests "in defense of the cross" may take place while Netanyahu is at the site.

Netanyahu is to be the first Israeli prime minister to take part in the march, which was inaugurated a decade ago. GSS Chief Ami Ayalon arrived in Poland to supervise security procedures for the three-kilometer trek.

Diplomats who saved Jews remembered

By ARYEH DEAN COHEN

When Solly Ganor was a slave laborer at Dachau, surrounded by death, he kept in mind one man he had met as a child in Kaunas, Lithuania: a Japanese diplomat who, with his wife, helped save thousands of Jews, even though they risked everything by doing so.

"All through the dark days of the Holocaust I remembered them. They were like a beacon, like a lighthouse in a sea of darkness. I knew there were some good people, too," said Ganor, who now lives in Herzliya. He was speaking yesterday at a gathering in Jerusalem of the families of six such diplomats, whose commitment to making the right moral choice saved tens of thousands of Jews.

Some 200,000 Jewish refugees were saved by 11 diplomats who dared violate their orders to help them escape the Nazis, when no one else would. It is estimated that 20 percent of all European Jewish survivors of the Holocaust were saved by this handful of diplomats, to whom tribute will be paid in an exhibition entitled "Visas for Life: The Righteous Diplomats," opening at Yad Vashem on Sunday. A special postage stamp commemorating five of them is also to be issued by the Postal Service.

The exhibit features photographs of the families and many of the original documents they supplied. "This is a story that has not been told to the Jewish people," said curator Eric Saul, "yet it's the story of the greatest rescue of Jews and other refugees during the Holocaust." It was decided to bring the surviving diplomats here now to share in the 50th anniversary celebrations, "because the Jewish people survived and endured, and what better time for the children of these diplomats, who saved a quarter of a million people, to be here to celebrate the survival of the Jewish people," Saul said.

One of the diplomats was Chiune Sugihara, the Japanese consular officer in Kaunas, whom Ganor remembered meeting for the first time as an 11-year-old boy in his aunt's shop during Hanukka, 1939. Ganor remembers him as an elegant man with kind eyes who offered to give him some Hanukka gelt, in return for which Ganor invited him to a family Hanukka party – his first introduction to the Jewish community he would touch so deeply in the years to come.

When Polish Jewish refugees flooded the city and told them of the horrors they'd experienced, the Lithuanian Jews knew they must flee. "The only person who was willing to listen to us was Chiune Sugihara," Ganor remembered. "He said to us: 'I realize I have to help, because there's no one else to help you. I know this is against the wishes of my government, and I'll probably get into a lot of trouble doing it, but I don't see any other way.'"

Simon Wiesenthal Center Israel Office director Efraim Zuroff, whose organization helped arrange the reunion of the diplomats' families, explained that Sugihara's efforts allowed thousands of Polish Jews, including former NRP MK Zerach Warhaftig – one of the original signatories of the Declaration of Independence – and hundreds of students from the Mir Yeshiva to escape, using documents that listed them as bound for Curacao via Japanese territory.

Ganor himself didn't benefit from the thousands of visas Sugihara provided, since after the Russians took over the town, Lithuanian passports could no longer be used. Eventually sent to Dachau, he never forgot Sugihara or his wife, Yukiko, "the beautiful and elegant lady" with whom he was reunited yesterday.

While they were all heroes, the diplomats were also modest, seeking no reward for doing the right thing. William Bingham's father, Hiram "Harry" Bingham, hardly ever talked to his son about saving Jews while serving in Marseilles at the outset of the war, but his efforts saved many important Jewish scholars and artists, including painter Marc Chagall.

"These men and their wives were very much like many Davids fighting against Goliaths," Bingham said at a press conference introducing the diplomats' families. "But the Goliaths they were fighting were not just Hitler, Mussolini, Nazism, or fascism – it was also their own governments, which had forbidden them to assist in these rescue operations."

Bingham's father helped set up an underground railroad in 1940, smuggling enemies of the Germans and others out of France by supplying them with the necessary documents, even when the US government ordered him to stop. When necessary, he went so far as to hide them in his home, dressing novelist Lion Feuchtwanger like a woman and passing him off as his aunt until he could be smuggled out.

Hiram Bingham finally resigned after being posted to Argentina, when he received information in 1945 that U-boats were being allowed to bring German war money to that country without the US doing anything about it. He hid many of the documents and letters he had accumulated over the years, and William, 43, found some of them five years ago.

"We knew that my father had been involved to some degree. He talked about Marc Chagall, in particular, who stayed with him... I think it was a very simple choice between good and evil. He knew... who was good and who was bad, and fascism and national socialism was bad... God had given him a choice between doing the right thing and doing the wrong thing."

John Paul Abranches's father, Aristides de Sousa Mendes, the Portuguese consul general in Bordeaux in 1940, faced the same choice when he confronted the possibility of losing his job while helping to rescue 30,000 refugees. While his wife helped pregnant women and the elderly in the back of the consulate, Mendes never thought twice about issuing Jews visas in the front.

"His government always thought my father had committed a sin by saving the Jews. My father felt that was not true, that we are all the same," Abranches said. "He was a Catholic all his life and had been preparing himself throughout his life for his moment of truth. That's what it was. He said: "I would rather be with God against man than with man against God."

Kicked out of the diplomatic service by the Salazar dictatorship in July 1940 for his actions, he was rehabilitated by Portugal in 1995 and honored for saving Jews. His son related how he was once asked by one of those he saved why he risked everything to rescue them.

"My father just answered: 'So many Jews have to suffer because of one Catholic – Hitler. So it's perfectly all right for a Catholic to suffer for so many Jews, and I welcome this opportunity with love."

The other three diplomats being honored are: Carl Lutz, a Swiss consular officer who saved Jewish refugees in Budapest; Jan Zwartendijk, the acting Dutch consul in Kaunas, who worked with Sugihara; and Raoul Wallenberg, the famous Swedish diplomat who worked in Budapest with Lutz.



Solly Ganor and Yukiko Sugihara hold a photo of her late husband, Japanese diplomat Chiune Sugihara, who risked his life to save Jews during World War II. (Isaac Harari)

US scholar: Trivialization endangers integrity of Holocaust

By TOM TUGEND

LOS ANGELES – The historical integrity of the Holocaust is endangered more by those who trivialize it by invoking the term to describe all the world's real or imagined victims than by revisionists who deny it happened at all, according to an American Jewish academic.

"In America's current culture, in which everyone is a victim or potential victim, we have adapted the language of the Holocaust's extremities to everyday use," said Prof. Alvin H. Rosenfeld, director of the Jewish Studies Program at Indiana University.

From bird lovers objecting to tree removals in New York City's Central Park, to AIDS activists and anti-abortionists, everybody is invoking the Holocaust as a kind of universal metaphor, said Rosenfeld in delivering the first 1939 Club Holocaust Memorial Lecture at the UCLA Center for Jewish Studies.

"In the current culture of suffering and victimization, which forms the basis for political entitlement, the Holocaust becomes an increasingly plastic and meaningless term," Rosenfeld charged.

He cited two particularly offensive examples of the Holocaust trivialization process. One, a poem by Louis Daniel Brodsky, described his divorce and separation from his children as "more excruciating (than) Bergen-Belsen's chimney stacks."

An earlier example, Rosenfeld said, is found in Betty Friedan's seminal "The Feminine Mystique". In the book, she describes the danger facing suburban women content to be just housewives as comparable to the millions who walked to their own deaths in concentration camps.

The current process confirms a warning by Elie Wiesel that popularization of the Holocaust would rapidly lead to its trivialization, Rosenfeld said.

Swiss banks, Holocaust victims to meet

WASHINGTON (Reuters) – Switzerland's big banks and representatives of Holocaust victims are to meet next Monday to begin deciding monetary terms of a global settlement on looted or lost Nazi-era assets, sources close to the talks said yesterday.

The Swiss banks, with Undersecretary of State Stuart Eizenstat as facilitator, averted sanctions threatened by US state and local governments with a breakthrough agreement last month in New York to negotiate the global settlement.

Now comes the discussion in Washington of actual monetary terms, which sources expect to be even more difficult.

"It's an incredibly complex lawsuit. Plus, it's about as emotionally and politically-laden a lawsuit as it gets," one source said.

He said the negotiations – to be held at the State Department with Eizenstat presiding – are expected to take weeks or months to complete.

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HEBREW PRESS REVIEW

By ORLY AHARONI

Economic trouble

"The number of job seekers during March indicates the highest monthly increase [in unemployment] since the downward trend of the labor force in mid 1996," says *Yediot Aharonot*'s Gideon Eshet. He is one of many commentators to address the unemployment issue which dominated headlines in the Hebrew press this week.

Eshet adds that the unemployment in the big cities is a highly disturbing symptom pointing to an even graver crisis.

Ma'ariv's Yisrael Rosenblatt criticizes what he views as a slow government response on the issue.

"It is unclear to which heights the unemployment curve must climb in order for the government to understand that business is not usual... the economic situation demands immediate decisions."

Yehuda Sharoni says in *Ma'ariv* that Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu might have "filled the unemployment hole in Netivot, but has received in response a big pit of newly unemployed in the big cities." Sharoni believes that Netanyahu and Finance Minister Yaakov Neeman are at fault.

Matches made in...

Commentators noted the meeting between Labor leader Ehud Barak and Gesher Party leader David Levy and the possible impending pact between Netanyahu and Moledet leader Rehavam Ze'evi.

Ha'aretz's Ron Kislev stresses that Barak initiated his inclusion in Levy's Mimouna party. Kislev addresses the fact that Gesher is in the middle of a rough period and has been showing signs of crumbling. He speculates that from Levy's viewpoint the meeting was aimed to "raise the price of Levy's return to the national camp."

Yosef Harrif expresses the view in *Ma'ariv* that Barak's visit does not indicate any alliance between the two leaders, given the large gaps between them in political and religious matters. He adds that Levy has realized that leaving the coalition was probably a mistake. "Contrary to Levy's predictions, the existence [of the government] does not rely on Gesher," he says, adding that in light of Netanyahu's negotiations with Moledet. "Levy as an experienced and clever politician understands that if the pact is implemented, his situation will be even more pressed."

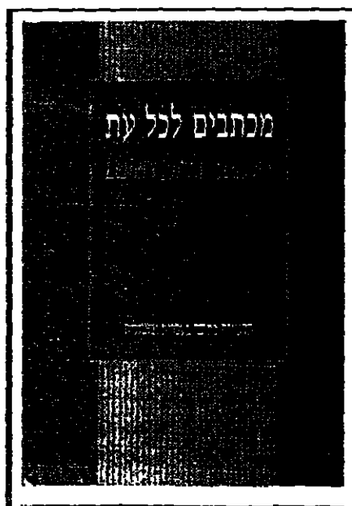
Ha'aretz's Yossi Verter believes that by adding Levy to his coalition, Netanyahu could have advanced the peace process and maintained his position, but that by "joining forces with Moledet in particular, Netanyahu is signaling to the public that what he is aiming for in his next elections is the right, all across the spectrum... This is surely a strategic decision, all the rest it tactical."

Yediot's Bina Barzel writes that the pact with Ze'evi "will strengthen and ensure Netanyahu's coalition at the no-confidence vote in the Knesset."

No regrets

Ma'ariv's Amnon Dankner and Avraham Tirosh both agree that Mordechai Vanunu's recent interview for the *Sunday Times* in which said he does not regret his actions against Israel and that if he were to be released he would continue to act against Israel's nuclear capabilities, will rightfully undermine his chances of deducting a third of his jail term.

"Vanunu has damaged the most sacred part of Israel's security and whoever does it should know that if he extends a hand to the fire, he will get burned,' says Dankner. Tirosh ponders: "If this is what he's doing while he's in jail, what will he be doing when he is set free?"



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Dor Shalom and Barak:

Mention Rabin in Jubilee event

By MICHAL YUDELMAN

Dor Shalom is calling a boycott of the central event of the 50th anniversary celebrations because the organizers decided to omit any mention of the murder of prime minister Yitzhak Rabin from it.

Labor Party leader Ehud Barak joined Dor Shalom's demand that Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu "amend the distortion" and address Rabin's murder in the Jubilee Bells show.

"You can not sum up the state's 50 years without Rabin's murder, and the prime minister must take immediate action to correct that mistake," Barak said.

Dor Shalom yesterday demanded that all Knesset members, dignitaries and artists taking part in the event, as well as foreign guests and leaders of Jewish organizations who were invited, boycott the event.

Dor Shalom's legal adviser, attorney Shai Marcus, charged the organizers of the event with a "cynical attempt to rewrite and distort history." He said the movement is considering taking legal action against the Prime Minister's Office and the jubilee committee.

"I don't know what the considerations behind the decision are, but the event is meant to reflect the spirit of unity in the nation and if Rabin's murder is not mentioned, then I suspect [there is] an ulterior motive to rewrite history," Marcus said.

Marcus said that despite the movement's repeated requests, the jubilee committee refused to reply to its query whether Rabin's murder was to be omitted and what the program was.

Marcus said that, according to the media, the jubilee committee "found no place to mention Rabin's murder in the main spectacle. Another version said they decided to include only happy, colorful, sublime events in the nation's history."

Jubilee committee director Doron Shmueli recently said he had excluded the Oslo Accords with the Palestinians from the 50th anniversary events because he "can't stand [Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser] Arafat."

Marcus said there was still time for the organizers to admit their mistake and rectify it.

"It's time someone finally said something about what is happening in the dark behind the scenes of a production which is costing us so many tens of millions of shekels. It's not too late to cancel this entire fiasco," he said.

Barak, Meimad discuss yeshiva draft

By HAIM SHAPIRO

Leaders of Meimad, the moderate religious-political movement, yesterday told Labor Party leader MK Ehud Barak in Tel Aviv that while they welcomed his initiative to draft yeshiva students, to do so without dialogue could result in exacerbating divisions between religious and secular.

Rabbi Michael Melchior, chairman of the Meimad executive, said that while Meimad believes that the burden of military service must be shared and that the fact that yeshiva students were exempted was presently a source of friction, it did not feel that simply by legislating, the problem could be solved.

"There has to be some sort of agreement with the haredi public," Melchior said.

Melchior added that to show that the move was not anti-religious in motivation, he told Barak that he should also make provision for expansion of the hesder-yeshiva system, where soldiers serve in military units and also study in yeshivot, as well as the National Service system, which today includes mostly women who do not want to serve in the army because of religious reasons and volunteer instead of military service.

Regarding the new covenant between religious and secular which had been formulated by Meimad rabbis, together with MKs Yossi Beilin (Labor) and Alex Lubotzky (Third Way), Melchior said that Barak viewed it as positive.

"We saw that he had learned it in depth and that he supports it," Melchior said. Melchior quoted Barak as saying that the covenant could result in making Israel both more Jewish and more democratic. He also said that Barak told them he wants the Labor party to become a more Jewish party.

"I see the Labor party as becoming closer to Meimad," Melchior said.

Sarah Honig adds: Barak explained that his bill will not detail the sort of service the yeshiva students would be obliged to do.

"The IDF will have to determine who it needs, where and for what. The basic premise, however is, that no member of this society can be automatically exempt from what is required of everyone else," Barak said. "Legislation alone will obviously not suffice and this will need to be accompanied by a long deep dialogue with the haredi community about how it would integrate in society. this is a long process and it will be quite a while before we get the bill ready."

Rubinstein: Law not against settlers

By BATSHEVA TSUR

The settlers are not discriminated against with regard to implementation of the law, Attorney-General Elyakim Rubinstein said yesterday in a legal opinion requested by Transport Minister Shaul Yahalom.

The security regulations in the territories date back to the Shamgar Commission of 1994, which investigated the massacre in the Machpela Cave, Rubinstein says. At the time, there was insufficient law-enforcement and the situation was complicated. Since then it has been further complicated by political developments in the area, Rubinstein points out.

In 1994 the security forces were not able to fully implement law and order and the situation has not improved much, despite the establishment of a police force for the Judea and Samaria region, he says. Rubinstein adds that the problems do not stem from the attitude of the Justice Ministry staff to the settlers.

The orders relate to lawbreakers, of whom there is a small number among the settlers, Rubinstein says, and not to the general Jewish population there. Most of the problems, he says, relate to property rights. The fear of property disputes - particularly over private lands – grows as the date approaches for a permanent settlement, he says.

Dov Driben's murder at Maon on Sunday strengthens the belief that "there is a need to arrange the issue within a comprehensive policy that will not leave the land issue in the hands of those in the field but rather of the authorities," the attorney-general says.

Rubinstein relates to a complaint from Yahalom that the settlers have to get special permits to demonstrate. He says that a demonstration, at a site where "two different populations whose nations have a serious conflict and with the IDF in the middle" is not the same as a demonstration within the Green Line.

With regard to open-fire orders,



Manhat unveiled

National Infrastructure Minister Ariel Sharon (right) and Jerusalem Mayor Ehud Olmert unveil a stone with the name 'Manhat,' to celebrate the completion of the capital's new neighborhood. Demonstrators heckled Olmert and held up signs protesting the lack of a promised school building. Olmert said he will push for a new school. (Text: Elli Wohlgelernter; photo: Bryan McBurney)

NEWS
in brief

Hanegbi sends coalition drafts for basic laws

Justice Minister Tzahi Hanegbi yesterday sent the coalition factions the texts of three new basic laws prepared by the ministry. They are: Basic Law: Social Rights; Basic Law: Freedom of Expression and Association; and Basic Law: Rights Before the Law. Hanegbi plans to meet with faction leaders to ensure coalition support for completing the legislation. *Batsheva Tsur*

No plot to nab Onassis heir, Swiss say

A Geneva prosecutor has ruled there was no plot to kidnap *Athina Roussel, sole heir to the $3 billion fortune of the late* Greek shipping tycoon Aristotle Onassis, the investigating judge said on Wednesday. Prosecutor Jean-Louis Crochet ruled that suspicious acts by Israeli agents who followed and photographed the 13-year-old and her security entourage last year comprised a "security audit," according to the investigating magistrate, Jacques Delieutraz. Greek trustees of Athina's fortune told a news conference in Athens last November that they had hired private Israeli investigators to secretly check on her security around her home in Switzerland and elsewhere. *Reuters*

Argentine Jews commemorate terror victims

The Argentine Jewish Mutual Association presented the model of a monument to the 86 victims of a 1994 bomb attack that destroyed its building. The monument, by Israeli artist Ya'acov Agam, will stand before the main door of the new association building to be built on the site of the previous one near downtown Buenos Aires. It will consist of nine aluminum columns around which the observer must walk to make out the fragmented images. These include a rainbow, a Star of David and a menora. "The monument is a visual prayer and a symbol of life against terrorism that blocks the normal development of life in freedom," Agam told reporters on Tuesday. *AP*

Fire erupts in Ashkelon park

A large fire erupted yesterday afternoon in the southern section of the Ashkelon National Park, and firefighters were combatting the blaze to stop it from spreading to a residential area. Police said people in the area saw an individual fleeing the sight, shortly before the blaze erupted. *Itim*

Murder suspects' names revealed

The Tel Aviv Magistrate's Court yesterday lifted a ban on publishing the names of suspects arrested for the attempted murder of Ramat Aviv businessman Shelly Narkiss. The court extended the remand of suspect Sharon Hazan, 26, of Tel Aviv for eight days, on suspicion of suborning to commit robbery and murder. His alleged accomplice was named as Martin Peter, whose remand was similarly extended. *Itim*

MDA workers on strike

By JUDY SIEGEL

Magen David Adom ambulances in the Dan region will arrive more slowly today, due to regional sanctions by staffers protecting against the Treasury's failure to approve special duty pay and other demands. Lives could be risked as a result of delayed response to emergencies.

The union announced yesterday that until further notice, a different region will suffer from the sanctions 24 hours at a time. Today, ambulances from branches in Bnai Brak, Givatayim and Ramat Gan will be assembled only at Tel Aviv branches, so getting to their destinations will take longer.

The union said they cancelled a labor dispute after receiving promises from the authorities to meet their demands. These include special duty pay granted to hospital workers, continued allocation of medics to accompany ambulance drivers, grade rises and compensation for evacuating victims of accidents involving chemicals and other dangerous substances.

MDA management last night sought restraining orders against the workers in the Tel Aviv Labor Court. Management said it fully supported the workers' demands, noting that MDA is the prime rescue organization in the country and its staff should get the same benefits as firefighters and others. However, MDA called on the union not to apply the regional sanctions so as not to jeopardize the lives and health of the public.

Na'amat decries court-ordered 'prostitute money'

By ESTHER HECHT

Awarding damages to an accident victim so he can pay for prostitutes to satisfy his sexual needs is not the proper way to solve the man's problem, the head of a women's organization said yesterday.

"It's unthinkable that a district court would give its approval to the continued exploitation of the bodies of women for the sexual satisfaction of men," said Ofra Friedman, head of Na'amat, the working women's organization.

Friedman was referring to Monday's precedent-setting ruling by a Tel Aviv District Court judge in the case of a 23-year-old Ramat Gan man injured five years ago in a traffic accident.

As part of a NIS 9.5 million damages award, Dr. Gavriel Kling ruled the man was to receive NIS 300,000 to pay for the services of prostitutes. Most of the total award is to be paid by the Ararat and Avner insurance companies; a small part is to be picked up by the National Insurance Institute.

The man is paralyzed on one side of his body, and partly paralyzed on the other. He is wheelchair-bound and cannot feed or dress himself.

The judge ruled that since it had been proven that the young man's ability to establish a relationship with a woman and marry had been greatly diminished, he must be enabled to receive sexual services for pay. The judge said there was no proof the award would contribute to increasing prostitution here.

Friedman said she favored helping the man achieve sexual satisfaction, through treatment or some other means, but that the allocation specifically for prostitutes was objectionable.

Uri Wernik, a Jerusalem-based clinical psychologist and sex therapist, said Na'amat's response did not take into account the needs of a person whom society finds unattractive.

"This is really a question of how society accepts disability," he said."Must a person who is disabled also become celibate?"

Carmi Gillon, CEO of Avner, said he had not yet read the judgment. "We will certainly consider an appeal, if [we find that] it diverges from the accepted norm," he added.

If the insurance companies decide to appeal, Friedman said, Na'amat will be happy to help in every way possible.

Hussein sees to safe landing of sick Israeli

By HAIM SHAPIRO

An Israeli passenger who became ill on a Royal Jordanian flight from Bangkok to Amman was flown back to Israel yesterday on a special ambulance plane provided by King Hussein.

Moshe Hananel, director of Galilee Tours, which is the airline's agent in Israel, said that when Haim Kedem suffered what appeared to be a heart attack, the pilot made an emergency landing in Bahrain, where the passenger was hospitalized.

A Royal Jordanian representative remained at Kedem's side throughout his stay in Bahrain, Hananel said.

Hananel said that Hussein found out about the incident from a number of sources, including MK Abdul Wahad Darawshe, who was in Amman at the time. The king decided to take personal responsibility for Kedem's safe return to Israel once he would be well enough to travel.

After four days, Kedem was flown to Ben-Gurion Airport on an eight-passenger ambulance jet of Arab Wings, a Royal Jordanian subsidiary. He was taken to Meir Hospital in Kfar Saba.

Marina project for Haifa rejected

By DAVID RUDGE

Plans for a billion dollar hotel and marina complex off the Haifa coast should be sent back to the drawing board, according to Prof. Jens Sorensen, one of the world's leading experts on coastal zone management.

"The process by which this decision [over the marina project] was made is very flawed. It should have been more open and based on better information," said Sorensen, of the University of Massachusetts in Boston.

"According to what I have heard, the information regarding the richness of flora and fauna in the proposed site and the geological uniqueness of this area was not even known to those preparing the impact statement in the planning process," he said yesterday at a press conference at the Haifa district field school of the Society for the Protection of Nature in Israel.

"To me it indicates that the decision was made by some elite group with very little information about the environment or people's interests, or about the physics of costs and without careful consideration of an alternative site closer to the existing harbor."

Sorensen, who has acted as an adviser on coastal planning to more than 40 countries, stressed that working with nature, rather than against it, is better and more cost-effective in the long term.

Sorensen is due to visit Jordan after his trip here, to give advice over development plans, in conjunction with Egypt and Israel, for the Gulf of Eilat.

Lawyer Daniel Fisch, director of the Israel Union for Environmental Protection, maintained that for years the marina project had been considered without any reference to the effect on the environment, and this aspect remained only partially covered.

The spokesperson for the Haifa Municipality, however, rejected the charges saying that all aspects of the project, including alternative sites, costs and the effects on the environment, had been thoroughly considered and discussed.

The project itself is aimed at reclaiming 500 dunams of land from the sea and building a complex of hotels, apartment homes, restaurants, cafes, swimming pools, a marina and other facilities on the site. It is estimated that the whole project will cost in excess of $1 billion.

Liat Collins adds:

Members of the student group Green Society, who early Tuesday climbed up a crane at the building site of the Sea and Sun project in Tel Aviv, intend remaining there, at a height of 50 meters, until their demands for a halt to illegal building on Tel Aviv beaches are met. They say the Sea and Sun project violates planning laws by being closer to the shoreline than the 100-meter limit and infringes zoning regulations because its apartments are being sold as residential property and not tourist facilities.

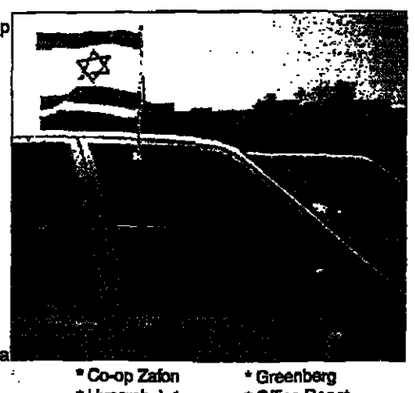
Yesterday, MK Dedi Zucker (Meretz) met with the six students, who had spent more than 24 hours at the top of the crane, and they authorized him to negotiate on their behalf with Tel Aviv Mayor Roni Milo, who reportedly owns an apartment in the project.

LIBI – The Fund for Strengthening Israel's Defense

Buy a Flag and Support Libi

This independence day is special - the jubilee of the state, and the Libi Fund is 18 (hai) years old.
With the slogan, Israelis for Libi, the chain stores are mounting a campaign to sell the national flag, for mounting on cars.
These flags are now on sale - NIS5 each - at all branches of the chain stores listed below.
The proceeds will go to the Libi Fund, and will be earmarked to support education in the IDF.

* Blue Square Co-op
* Super Co-op
* Hyper Co-op
* Zil Vazol
* Super Center
* Machsanei Rakevet
* Super-Sol
* Hyper-Kol
* Gal Yarok
* Hyper Nato
* Cosmos
* Universe Club
* Machsanei Mazon Beersheba
* Tal-Sal (Hakniya Hashotefet)
* Co-op Zafon
* Hypershuk 1
* Clubmarket
* Greenberg
* Office Depot



LIBI – The Fund for Strengthening Israel's Defense
17 Rehov Arania, Hakirya, Tel Aviv 61070,
Tel. 03-697-5183, 03-696-8206, 03-569-5610

TEL AVIV UNIVERSITY

The Lester and Sally Entin Faculty of Humanities

THE INAUGURATION OF THE STEPHEN ROTH INSTITUTE FOR THE STUDY OF CONTEMPORARY ANTI-SEMITISM AND RACISM

Opening remarks
Professor Yoram Dinstein
President of the University

Professor Marcelo Dascal
Dean of the Faculty

Dr. Dina Porat
Head of the Institute

Guest Lecture
Professor Shlomo Avineri
Hebrew University of Jerusalem

Never Again? Not Really.

On Monday, 27 April 1998 at 6:00 p.m.
in the Malka Brender Hall of Justice, Trubowicz Building of Law
Tel Aviv University Campus, Ramat Aviv

- The Public is invited -

The Saudi way

The Japanese business executive, so important that his last name appears on thousands of automobiles, paused for a moment after hearing our consulting group's briefing on the Persian Gulf political situation.

"That's all very interesting," he said softly. "But what we really want to know is: On what date will the Saudi monarchy fall?"

The Region



Barry Rubin

One of my colleagues joked, "We know the date and we're willing to tell you. But first, let's talk about renegotiating our fee."

This exchange is characteristic of how people look at Saudi Arabia: as a way of making money now, and as a revolutionary crisis in the making.

Recently, the world's attention was focused on the kingdom. First, the haj, the Moslem pilgrimage to Mecca, received more international media attention than ever before. Aside from a stampede, in which more than 150 people were tragically killed, and the call by an important imam for jihad against Israel, it went off pretty much as usual.

The other event was King Fahd's illness. He recovered, but Crown Prince Abdallah's succession to the throne is drawing nearer.

To borrow a phrase from the American humorist Mark Twain, reports of Saudi Arabia's demise have been greatly exaggerated.

True, low oil prices and higher domestic spending have forced the kingdom to borrow money internationally for several years' running. Yet subsidies, while reduced, remain enviable.

Also true, there have been several acts of internal terrorism, particularly directed against US installations as well as an increasingly vocal opposition in exile. But these attacks and the number of the regime's open enemies remain very limited.

In social terms, there is a gradually developing contradiction between a highly traditional society and imported modernity.

Catalysts of change include the usual factors: a growing awareness and travel in the outside world, urbanization and higher education.

Still, the key word here is "long-term." This is a multi-generational process that will take longer to manifest itself than most observers expect.

Foreign policy poses a more immediate challenge. As a conservative society, the Saudis like change in their international position as little as they like it in their domestic arrangements.

The traditional Saudi strategy is to get along with everyone possible in the Arab world, using money to buy geopolitical safety. Other features of this system include using the US as a protector without being too obvious about it, and playing off Iran against Iraq (1970-1979) or Iraq against Iran (1979-1990).

When this technique broke down with Iraqi President Saddam Hussein's 1990 seizure of Kuwait, the Saudis did not hesitate to seek massive American intervention. Now, however, Riyadh seems to be returning to the old pattern a bit, tilting back to Teheran and trying to avoid provoking Saddam, while still counting on the US to hold back any serious threat.

Large arms purchases also continue, though the regime is still far from able to defend its national territory against Iran or Iraq without Western help.

It is often said that Crown Prince Abdallah is a bit more of a pan-Arab nationalist than Fahd and has a fondness for Syria. In power, however, he would probably not change much in foreign policy.

One of the most surprising things about Saudi Arabia is that its absence in promoting the peace process stirs so little criticism or pressure. Visceral hatred of Israel is at very high levels there, of course, but love for the Palestinians is also limited. The number of Palestinians allowed to work in Saudi Arabia was always sharply limited, and the PLO's pro-Saddam stance in 1990 didn't help matters.

Riyadh is far more concerned avoiding doing anything that might antagonize Syria. This means that the Saudis not only refused to move toward normalization with Israel themselves, but discouraged other Arabs from doing so. This is understandable given the current freeze of the peace process, but that was their approach even during the Rabin-Peres era. It is interesting to note that the Gulf Arab states most ready for normalization – Oman, Qatar, and the United Arab Emirates (UAE) – were also those seeking a bit more freedom from Saudi patronage.

Saudi Arabia would like to see a stable moderate Palestine under non-Islamic fundamentalist rulers, yet is quite unwilling to pay for it. While Saudi Arabia is the largest Arab contributor to the Palestinian Authority (PA), together with the UAE it only pledged $125 million, just five percent of the international donors' total amount.

The Saudis could easily solve all the PA's financial problems, rehouse those in the refugee camps, and make those territories a development showcase without even making a dent in their budget.

To appease Syria at the time of the 1991 Kuwait crisis, for example, Riyadh gave $2 billion to buy arms. In comparison, the PA must be grateful when the Saudis give alms in the form of $3.5 million for sheep. As for investments, the Saudis prefer the better returns and greater security possible in the West.

One can argue that Saudi policy belies its national interest.

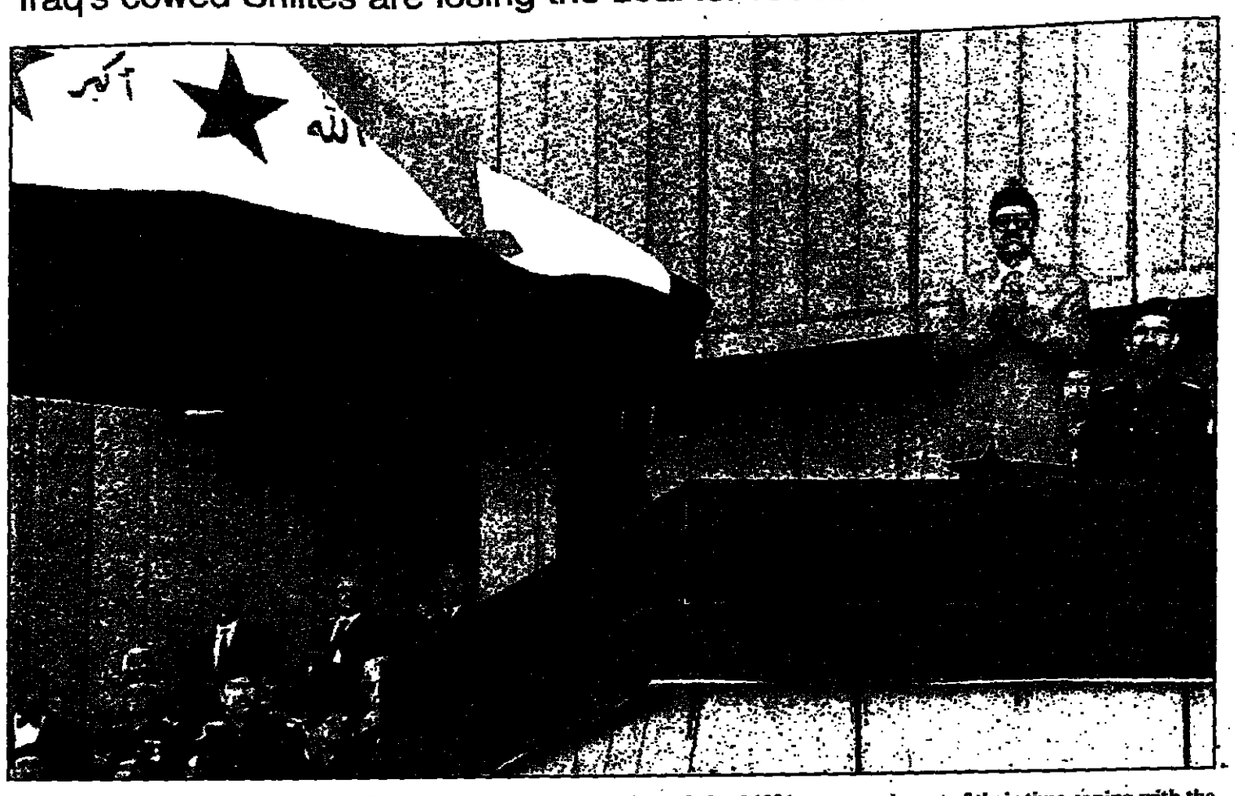
Israel does not threaten it; they both face common militant enemies, and want a strong US influence in the region. The problem is that such arguments will never convince Saudi leaders.

At the same time, though, the Saudis desire to "drop out" of the Arab-Israeli conflict means that the country will continue to oppose a return to the old Arab-Israeli conflict era of high-tension and potential warfare.

Facing up is hard to do

Iraq's cowed Shiites are losing the zeal for rebellion

By DOUG STRUCK



Saddam Hussein reviewing a parade in Baghdad earlier this month. The rebels of 1991 now spend most of their time coping with the hardships of a destitute economy. (AP)

KARBALA, Iraq – The walls are whitewashed now, erased of the bloody handprints that told of death. The hypnotic blue tiles of the al-Abbas mosque are repaired, and President Saddam Hussein gave the gold to re-gild the shrine, pummeled when his tanks put down a revolt after the Gulf War.

Seven years after a fight-to-the-death uprising in southern Iraq, the Iraqi government has rebuilt the flattened buildings of the rebels' last stand and tightened its stranglehold on the region.

Here and in other cities of the south, the zeal that fed a revolt against Saddam Hussein's regime after the allied bombs stopped has been replaced by the weary struggle of daily life in an impoverished, sweltering land.

Only a museum of the macabre in a side room of the al-Abbas shrine in Karbala tries to preserve evidence of the fierce fighting. But even the strange track of aluminum windows laid end-to-end on the floor over blood from the rebels' victims has not kept the red stains from fading.

Shiite Muslims who embraced the revolt have now learned their lines: "Karbala is heaven," said Hassan Ali Hamsa, 50, sitting near a hotel built over his property that was destroyed and then confiscated by the government. "Everybody loves the government," he insisted.

"The government has rebuilt us: roads, bridges, everything," said Mothena Jaffer, a freezer merchant in Basra, Iraq's southernmost city.

"There is no more anger here. We have a saying, 'Live and let die.'"

Any hope that international isolation and the squeezing economic boycott of Iraq will create a popular revolt against Saddam Hussein appears ever more wishful thinking by the West. The CIA-sponsored resistance movement among Kurds in the north collapsed 20 months ago at the cost of millions of dollars and hundreds of lives, forcing a hasty evacuation of 7,000 collaborators and their families to Turkey and the US.

And in southern Iraq, Shiite Muslims have no more taste for open revolution. They had watched, incredulous, as the US-led allied forces allowed Saddam Hussein's helicopter gunships to mow them down in 1991, and they are resigned to the reign of the Iraqi president.

"There are no signs of opposition," a veteran diplomat said in Baghdad. "There's no sign of it, no symptom of it."

With good reason. The UN Commission on Human Rights reported this month the Iraqi regime recently executed 1,500 political prisoners, giving credence to claims by Iraqi opposition groups in London that Saddam Hussein's son Qusay has ordered a "cleansing" of overflowing jails by shooting and electrocution.

"Saddam is for keeps here," said an Asian diplomat. "With every crisis he consolidates power. He has become a national hero for 'beating' the Americans."

Still, Saddam Hussein does not trust the goodwill of his people. The roads from Baghdad to Basra bristle with a show of force. There are scores of army checkpoints and military encampments, tents and gun emplacements baking in the sun. In Basra, a line of military statues points across the river to the traditional enemy Iran, but on the road to Basra the guns are pointed within.

The Shiite Muslims make up 65 percent of Iraq's population, but have long been a repressed and suspect majority. An early schism in Islam produced two main branches of the faith; the Sunni Muslim minority in Iraq – and for many years, the West – has long been wary of the spreading religious fervor from Shiite Iran. The 1991 rebellion briefly threatened to unite the Shiites in Iraq with their co-religionists in Iran, which could have further splintered Iraq, a country of tribal loyalties held together in Saddam Hussein's grip.

To reward the south's newfound loyalty, Saddam Hussein has rebuilt the mosques that are central to the Shiites, and refurbished towns damaged in fighting. A new canal from the Euphrates and a water purification plant recently brought potable water to Basra for the first time.

"Now I can wash my face. Before, even soap wouldn't clean us," said Jabber Ali, 31, a tea merchant. "And we don't have to buy water to drink. We are very grateful."

There are other longstanding problems. Electrical power in the south is still weak and unreliable, running at only about 40 percent of needs, and a recent UN report said that unless billions are invested in electrical generation no widespread improvements will be made to water purification, sewage treatment, or reduction in waterborne disease.

Medical care remains a problem, as throughout Iraq. Medicine is scarce, hospitals lack staff and basic equipment. Mortality is high.

The weak perish. The tiny baby in the rundown "preemie" ward in the Saddam Hussein Hospital for Children in Karbala probably will not make it. The old woman begging in the street will catch an infection and die.

These casualties do not threaten the Iraqi leader's rule. On the contrary, the deaths are propaganda windfalls, used by Iraq to graphically illustrate what they portray as the evils of sanctions, which, indeed, kill the weakest and most vulnerable.

Southern Iraq has long carried a heavy share of this burden. It is poor, visited by disease, and host to regular warfare since the seventh century. Imam Ali, cousin of the prophet Mohammed, defeated two of his relatives nearby and paused to call Basra "an accursed place."

It is still dangerous. In rural areas, highway bandits prowl the roads. Drivers do not venture out at night, and the government, with some reluctance, has sought help from local tribal leaders to curb the crime.

Basra was the front line of the Iran-Iraq war, which claimed one million lives between 1980 and 1988. Two years later, Iraqi troops rumbled through Basra to invade Kuwait, just 90 miles away, and returned after Operation Desert Storm. The routed tide of humiliated soldiers walking back to Iraq joined with local Shiites and some Iranian fighters, and staged a revolt that was merciless in its birth and was shown no mercy at its death.

When a correspondent visited Karbala after the revolt failed in 1991, the pools of caked blood underneath nooses in the al-Abbas shrine marked where 73 government and party members were hanged by the revolutionaries. Rooms that stank of death and carried the signature of bloody handprints suggested the brutal response of Saddam Hussein's regrouped Republican Guard.

Now, people here rewrite the past. The damage all was done by the Americans and other Zionist allies, people in Karbala and Najaf will suggest. If pressed about what they call the "Phase of the Traitors," they assert it was a conflict perpetrated by Iranians who came across the border.

The Iraqi woman in the black chador in Karbala knows otherwise.

"My husband was taken on 19 of March, 1991, because of the resistance," she said, gripping the veil across her mouth in Muslim modesty. "The government came to search our house, and took him away. We have heard nothing since then. It is very hard. We have no money. My children have no father," she said.

The travails of their daily life, Iraqis insist, would disappear if the West would end its campaign to topple Saddam Hussein and let the UN remove the embargo.

"The problem is not with Iraq. The problem is with the United Nations," said Basra Archbishop Djibrael Kassab, head of a tiny Catholic community in southern Iraq. "Believe me, these sanctions do not hurt me. They do not hurt Saddam Hussein. They hurt the people who are very poor." Dirt poor. The southern countryside is largely a treeless place of mud-brick houses, barefoot children, donkeys and dogs. The sun seizes the land, baking strength into the houses and robbing it from the people.

All Iraqis now rely on the monthly food ration begun by the government soon after sanctions were imposed, and increased slowly after May 1996, when Iraq and the UN reached agreement on a "food for oil" program allowing Iraq to sell $2 billion worth of oil every six months to pay for for food and medicine.

The food basket contains no meat or animal proteins, and at 2,000 calories a day, is just enough for sustenance, according to the World Food Program. But if poor families can raise a few chickens to eat, grow some extra vegetables, or catch a fish in the declining marshes of the south, their life, ironically, is more stable than it traditionally has been.

Saddam Hussein is taking away the fishing. A huge project to drain the marshes is being done to boost agriculture, the government says.

Others say it is to rid the ancient, long-independent Marsh Arabs of their base, and many say the project will be an ecological nightmare.

But the UN and others say Saddam Hussein's food distribution program has been efficient and largely fair, and the south is treated equally with other regions.

"We can say with assurance that 99.5 percent of the population has access to the food basket," said Eric Falt, a spokesman for the UN humanitarian effort in Baghdad.

"We all depend on this system," said Latiffa Hassen, 40, a widow at Basra's food distribution shop. She spends each morning on the sidewalk, reselling nuts and dried lemons, but that does not give her enough to eat, she said. "This ration is our food. Praise Allah for the government."

(The Washington Post)

AGENDA

Continued from Page 1

Trauma and Revival

It is particularly important today, as we commemorate the victims of the Holocaust, and a week before memorializing the heroes who paid for our sovereignty with their lives, that we recall our achievements, and not only the trauma.

Within just a few years we have been transformed from being a country whose international symbols were Gottex and Jaffa of textile and citrus fame, to a global power in software and on the Internet. The successes of Check Point Technologies and VocalTec Communications are being taught at Harvard University. Scitex has fallen and risen anew, while many of our military industries such as the Elron Group's Elscint and Elbit have been civilianized. Their know-how, which was once used for the manufacture of weapons and electro-optics for military purposes, is now being applied to production in the fields of science and medicine, for the benefit rather than detriment of humanity.

This week it is important to place our mundane concerns about the issues of leadership, unemployment and the peace process in perspective, and to consider the strategic assets we have accumulated since the founding of the state 50 years ago.

That which gives us strength and that which weakens us

The leaders of Israel's defense establishment and its international research institutes point to four key assets which have assisted not only in the national revival of the Jewish people but also in its ability to survive in a hostile environment

If we are looking for slogans, and on our 50th anniversary we may indulge ourselves, then we can speak about four central strategic assets:

A. Defense and technological superiority - or what was once known as "The Dimona textile plant";

B. Jerusalem – the focus of Zionist motivation uniting Jews in Israel and the Diaspora;

C. Jewish influence in America;

D. The territories beyond the Green Line which have permitted the defense of our population centers.

These are assets which give us power, but which are at the same time also sources of danger.

Dimona – The vision of a nuclear deterrent is the ultimate point of Israeli deterrence, which is based on its technological edge, on Jewish brain power, on the strength of the IDF. It is perhaps a strategic asset which has seen the state through the 1960s, 1970s and 1980s. Even today, and perhaps now more than ever, we could not do without it, although its uniqueness is at risk.

It could be claimed that Dimona gave the Arab states the incentive to obtain nuclear power of their own. We may of course also toy with the illusion that if it were not for Israel's missile capability, Iran would not today be attempting to develop its own missiles, that Iraq would not be accumulating weapons of mass destruction, that the Arab world would have remained in the Stone Age, and continued to pose only the threat of numerical superiority.

Jerusalem – The principle weapon of the Palmah, Haganah, Irgun and Lehi was ideology. The motive was survival, to fight for survival. This was the essence of Zionism. As the 20th century draws to a close, Zionist motivation throughout the Jewish world has made Jerusalem the focus of a yearning for an independent identity. Jerusalem is not a slogan in the peace process. Its unity is a goal which the people set for its leaders long before the leaders set it for the people.

In 1975 I once discussed the ability of leaders to set a national agenda with the late Moshe Dayan.

"The limits of leadership," Dayan said, "lie in the strength of the people to stand behind their leaders. The limits of leadership come to the fore at the point where national fatigue begins. I believe that we should fight for every lump of soil, the ability to fight diminishes when parents enter the picture and signal that they no longer have the strength to pay the price."

Jewish influence in America - If you ask MK Yossi Beilin what was behind Oslo, it was not simply a desire to make concessions, but an inner conviction that it is better to embark on a process of concession-making from a position of relative strength, before national fatigue takes over, and before the other side's motivation increases.

Jewish strength – In the mid-1980s Israel waged a campaign to try to obtain membership in the UN's Economic and Social Council. Beilin, then director-general of the foreign ministry, went to enlist the assistance of Richard Murphy, then the US assistant secretary of state, armed with a thick file of explanations and documents.

Murphy looked at him and asked Israel to withdraw its request. He explained that in the administration's view, Israel had no chance of being accepted. Yet if Israel's request were to be rejected, the US would have likely had no alternative but to leave the organization, due to the pressures of the pro-Israel lobby, AIPAC.

If we compare it with the closed-door policy adopted by the US towards European Jewry during the Holocaust, then Israel's ability to influence administration policy via its strong lobby in Congress appears tremendous. It is not only reflected in pressures brought to bear on policy makers regarding Israel, or in securing the signatures of 81 senators who have called on President Bill Clinton not to put pressure on Israel, but also on the influence exerted on behalf of other nations that Israel is interested in promoting.

Jewish efforts to exert influence are in no small measure an outgrowth of the trauma that American Jewry experienced in the wake of its helplessness during the Holocaust. These efforts accelerated after the Six Day War, a war which gave a tremendous boost to American Jewry's sense of identity with Israel.

This coin too however, has two sides. And the flip side is Israel's increasing dependence on America and the enormous damage which Israel may suffer when these relations worsen.

Geographic gains – The territories added by the Six Day War, most of which Israel no longer controls, gave the country an important strategic advantage and provided an additional margin of security, in the event of war. It is true that territory is no obstacle to missiles but leftists are also aware of the fact, however painful it may be, that a country cannot be conquered by missiles. The territories, however, led to a demographic problem which has yet to be resolved, despite the massive immigration from the CIS.

Even if most of Judea and Samaria is handed over to the Palestinians, the Six Day War will remain a traumatic memory for the Arab world. The overwhelming Israeli victory in so few days of battle, which changed the face of the Middle East for generations, is no small measure of deterrence, even at the end of the 20th century.

Leadership and ideology

This week Israel's politicians were preoccupied with the question of how the performance of the prime minister has earned such low ratings in the polls. Yet he is still the predicted winner in the next elections.

As Israel embarks on the start of its second half-century, the people are expressing disappointment, and signaling a need for a leadership which will fix renewed national goals and objectives. Our leaders must learn to maneuver, using the assets that they have. The results of the last election and recent polls show that the Israeli people have not lost their resolve. The fatigue which Moshe Dayan mentioned 20 years ago, and which so worried Yossi Beilin, has not put an end to Zionist motivation.

This week's sights – the contrast between the uniforms walking through the valley of the lost communities at Yad Vashem, between the prime minister and four of his ministers leading the March of the Living from Auschwitz to Birkenau in Israel's 50th year, and the pathetic sight of Jewish leaders pleading for their people – symbolize more than anything written, the real revolution which the Jewish people has undergone in the 20th century.

Following the Holocaust, Gen. Yitzhak Sadeh said, "Let us use our suffering and turn it into strength." Today, 50 years after the founding of the state, the trauma of the loss of one-third of our people is mainly due to the feeling of helplessness and real weakness of the time.

Prof. Bauer told the generals that he believes that even if we attempt to forget this trauma, other nations will remind us of it. He says that although there is no precedent for what happened to the Jewish people, who were murdered merely for the "sin of their birthright," the Holocaust may have set its own precedent for the future.

Each and every morning, when we wake up to blue skies and a new day, each and every one of us should give sincere thanks for having the opportunity to be a part of the biggest, most successful revolution of the 20th century, for reviving our sovereignty in the Jewish homeland.

At least once in 50 years, we shouldn't be ashamed to acknowledge our pride.

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White House: Republicans loyal to 'big tobacco'

By ELIZABETH SHOGREN and ALISSA RUBIN

WASHINGTON – The White House, trying to raise the political price of backing away from major legislation to combat teen smoking, has accused the House Republican leadership of being beholden to the tobacco companies.

Republicans, meanwhile, criticized the major anti-smoking bill as a liberal, big government and big tax initiative – a dramatic turnaround from just a few weeks ago when they seemed eager to join Democrats' attack on big tobacco companies.

The high-stakes rhetoric from both sides seemed calculated to test the political viability of supporting either a tough package or a stripped-down bill that public health advocates say would do little to combat the teen smoking epidemic and that US President Bill Clinton has said he will reject.

Through all the flames and smoke, however, some Republicans and White House officials said strong anti-smoking legislation could still win congressional approval.

House Speaker Newt Gingrich, R-Ga., fired his first salvo over the weekend, describing legislation approved by the Senate Commerce Committee as a "big government bill."

On Monday, he said in a speech that teen-age smoking "has nothing to do with Joe Camel," the RJR Reynolds Co. cartoon character that for years was used to advertise Camel cigarettes.

Gingrich continued Tuesday to bash the bill, saying, "this is an issue about whether or not liberals deliberately used a passionate, powerful, emotional issue as an excuse for higher taxes, bigger government and more bureaucracy."

At the same time, however, Gingrich indicated willingness to raise tobacco taxes if the money could be spent as some House GOP members want – for a tax cut. He also said he wants to tie the anti-smoking measure to legislation to fight illegal drug use among teens.

"If the president wants to raise the cost of cigarettes, I'll join him tomorrow and we'll do it, if he is willing to give the money back to the American people," Gingrich added.

The bill Gingrich criticized was approved overwhelmingly by a key GOP-controlled committee and praised by Clinton. It would raise the price of a pack of cigarettes by $1.10 over five years, give the Food and Drug Administration authority to regulate tobacco much as it does other drugs, and provide money for tobacco farmers as demand for their crop ebbed.

Clinton favors spending new tobacco revenues on an array of domestic priorities, including health care research, child care, education programs and sweeping anti-smoking programs.

The Gingrich offensive appeared to ignite the president's anger.

After months of trying to show a cooperative face in his dealings with GOP congressional leaders, Clinton turned up the heat in a statement in the White House Rose Garden, tying Gingrich to what some see as a pariah industry.

"Even as the (industry) executives denied they were targeting children, Joe Camel became as recognizable to them as Mickey Mouse," Clinton said.

"Now, some in Congress say that teen smoking has nothing to do with Joe Camel," he continued. "Medical science and common sense makes it plain: Teen smoking has everything to do with Joe Camel – with unscrupulous marketing campaigns that prey on the insecurities and dreams of our children." (Los Angeles Times)

Due to slumping oil income

Khatami revises Iran's budget

TEHERAN (Reuters) – A slump in world oil prices has forced Iran to redraw its budget to incorporate an oil price of $12 a barrel from an earlier forecast of $16, President Mohammed Khatami said yesterday.

The decision to sharply revise downwards the country's expected oil receipts in the current Iranian year which ends on March 20 came against a background of weak oil prices, which last month fell to their lowest level in nine years.

"In the new year we faced a $4 billion drop in income due to the fall in oil prices ... so in the short-term we based the oil price on $12 and any extra income will be spent on boosting investment," state television reported Khatami as saying.

Iran – the world's third largest oil exporter after Saudi Arabia and Norway – relies on oil income for around 80 percent of hard currency earnings and up to 40% of government revenue.

Faced with nearly $30b. in foreign debt, Iran has repayments of $4.9b. scheduled for the current Iranian year.

Central Bank Governor Mohsen Nourbakhsh has pledged that Iran will repay its international debts on time despite weaker oil prices.

Iranian sources said that the change in the budgeted oil price would be temporary and last as long as world oil prices remained weak.

"We have reduced the oil price in the budget to $12 for the next couple of months in light of the current oil market situation," a Teheran source said, adding that the change would be temporary.

It is the second time this year that Iran has scaled down its budget because of lower-than-budgeted oil prices. In January parliament passed a revised budget based on oil income of $16.2b. using a $16 a barrel price assumption. The government had initially proposed a price of $17.50 a barrel.

Oil prices have dived this year because of growing supplies from the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC), Asia's economic crisis, a mild winter in the northern hemisphere and increased exports from Iraq under a United Nations "oil-for-food" deal.

Iran heavy crude export grade was trading at $12 a barrel in the Mediterranean yesterday compared to a 1997 high of nearly $22.

Khatami, speaking during a visit to south-eastern Iran, described the country's economy as having a "sick structure" and said that the government was studying structural changes. He said the government would continue to subsidize basic foodstuffs and would not cut its welfare programs.

"We will try to provide basic goods to the people at suitable prices and will pay 100 percent of the welfare and social insurance budgets," the television quoted Khatami as saying.

He said the current campaign to enforce state price controls and prosecute violators would continue as long the "problems and shortcomings remained," but added that he generally did not support such actions.

Some government ministries already have had their spending budgets for the current year cut and the government has issued 2.25 trillion rials ($1.3b.) worth of state certificates to supplement its budget.

Iran's petroleum-dominated economy is racked by low oil prices, a falling currency, double-digit inflation and heavily subsidized prices.

Turks protest sentencing of Islamist mayor

ISTANBUL (Reuters) – Thousands of Turkish Islamists protested outside Istanbul city hall yesterday at a sentence imposed on Islamist mayor Recep Tayyip Erdogan, who was convicted of inciting hatred in a speech.

"Turkey is proud of you," around 5,000 protesters chanted as Erdogan held a news conference inside the council headquarters.

Witnesses said the demonstrators blocked traffic as riot police looked on.

"We will continue our democratic struggle to the end. We will not bow our heads before repression," Erdogan told the rowdy gathering. Hundreds of supporters and council workers responded with rapturous applause.

A court on Tuesday gave Erdogan a 10-month jail sentence for "provoking hatred" in an Islamist speech he made last year. The mayor is free pending an appeal.

"I was not sentenced because of corruption, treason or theft but for expressing my opinions," he said after reading out part of the speech for which he was convicted.

Erdogan has denied any provocation in his speech in which he compared Islamists to an army. He said the address was an excerpt from a Turkish poem and a call for peace.

Large Islamist demonstrations earlier this year led to the government's back-pedalling on enforcing bans on Islamic headscarves in universities, only for the ruling alliance to be told by the generals to push ahead with the crackdown.

Turkey's secularist authorities have also launched more than 70 investigations into Ankara's Islamist mayor Melih Gokcek, state officials said yesterday.

The investigations could lead to Gokcek's being removed from office or prosecuted.

The liberal daily *Yeni Yuzyil* said the accusations against Ankara's Gokcek included favoring political supporters in municipality tenders, sacking workers without just cause, and links to radical Islamist foundations.

Both mayors came to office in 1994 local elections, a turning point in the Islamist struggle against Moslem Turkey's secular order.

Turkey's secularist elite, spearheaded by the powerful military, launched an anti-Islamist campaign which forced the resignation of the country's first Islamist prime minister, Necmettin Erbakan, last June.

Prime Minister Mesut Yilmaz, whose secularist minority coalition took over from Erbakan, has vowed to fight Islamist activism after being accused by the secularist military of going soft on Islamists.



You're in the army now

A women recruit in the British army trains alongside male soldiers as part of the British army's new gender-free assessment process. New fitness tests launched yesterday for recruits aim to give women a better chance of being accepted and help a less fit generation of men. (AP)

Prodi's administration third-longest in post-war history

By PHILIP PULLELLA

ROME (Reuters) – The government of Prime Minister Romano Prodi, born under an unlucky star nearly two years ago, yesterday became the third longest administration in Italian post-war history.

Political stability in Italy, notorious for its short-lived governments since 1945, is a concern among European Union nations as the launch of the economic and monetary union (EMU) approaches.

So Prodi, who heads Italy's 55th post-war coalition, has all the more reason to be smiling.

The center-left coalition marked its 705th day in office yesterday, overtaking the seventh government of prime minister Alcide de Gaspari, which lasted from 1951-53, for the third place slot.

The longest single post-war government was the 1,058-day coalition headed by Bettino Craxi, now disgraced by corruption convictions and living in exile in Tunisia.

The second longest was an 833-day government headed in the 1960s by Aldo Moro, who was killed by Red Brigade terrorists in 1978.

Prodi's coalition, the first to include ex-communists, was formed on Friday, May 17, 1996.

Friday the 17th is the single most unlucky day for superstitious Italians – equivalent to Friday the 13th in other countries – but Prodi seems to have had the stars on his side this time.

It is a sweet success for Prodi, a Roman Catholic economist who has managed to stay in office despite the constant threat of being torpedoed by the Communist Refoundation party that guarantees his lifeline in the lower house of parliament.

Perhaps the sweetest political victory Prodi will taste will come May 2-3 when European leaders decide which countries will take part in the first wave of Europe's single currency.

Italy's entry is almost taken for granted, since it received the go-ahead from the European Commission, the European Monetary Institute (EMI) and the Bundesbank.

"We got it," a jubilant Prodi cheered to reporters on March 25, when the EMI and the Commission made their recommendations.

Prodi had personal as well as professional reasons to bask in the reflected glow of the euro.

When he formed his government on that fateful May 17, 1996, he promised to resign if he failed to guide Italy into EMU.

Heading a government dominated by leftists, he has managed to persuade the country to swallow one bitter budgetary pill after another to get it in shape for EMU.

Under Prodi, Italy has made notable progress in public finances and has pledged to stick with fiscal austerity policies after the launch of the single currency.

It has cut its budget deficit from 10 percent of GDP five years ago and nearly 7% in 1996 to 2.7% in 1997 and forecasts a drop to 2.6% this year.

Prodi, whose Olive Tree coalition won the April 21, 1996, general elections, has managed to pull his government back from the brink of collapse twice since he took office.

Carters defend Fonda after Georgia insult

ATLANTA (Reuters) – Former US president Jimmy Carter and his wife Rosalyn have risen to the defense of actress Jane Fonda, who apologized last week for comparing the state of Georgia to a developing country in a UN speech.

The Carters, in a letter to the editor published Wednesday in *The Atlanta Journal-Constitution*, said Fonda "does not deserve the vituperative condemnation she has received" for comments made to a United Nations panel on population control.

Fonda, the wife of CNN founder Ted Turner, told a UN round-table that children in north Georgia are "starving to death. People live in tar-paper shacks with no indoor plumbing, and so forth."

She said that "working in Georgia [is] very interesting, because we are, in some ways, like some developing countries."

Georgia Governor Zell Miller subsequently wrote Fonda to call her comments "ridiculous" and "personally offensive," adding that "maybe the view from your penthouse window is not as clear as it needs to be."

Kohl, Schroeder to debate euro in parliament

By WILLIAM BOSTON

BONN (Reuters) – German Chancellor Helmut Kohl will face his Social Democrat (SPD) challenger Gerhard Schroeder today in a parliamentary debate that marks the last hurdle in Germany to Europe's single currency.

Parliament is expected to give Kohl the green light to take Germany into Europe's economic and monetary union (EMU) despite doubts still harbored by most Germans about giving up the mark, symbol of the country's postwar prosperity.

Kohl, a key architect of the single currency, has called the euro a turning point in European history and the most important event for Germans since unification in 1990.

"I am convinced the success story of the mark will continue as the success of the euro at the European level," he told parliament's finance and European affairs committees this week.

But Schroeder, a pro-business socialist moderate who leads Kohl in opinion polls ahead of the September 27 election, has called the January launch a "sickly premature birth." He warns it could worsen Germany's record unemployment.

Schroeder has shied away from rejecting EMU but played to voters' fears. He is not expected to take an opposing stance but could elaborate on SPD demands for political union with a strong focus on jobs.

The SPD yesterday published its own addendum to parliament's declaration, backing the euro as "the European Union's decisive answer to challenges of the 21st century."

But it called for coordination of European economic policies and measures to ensure long-term currency stability.

The votes today in the lower house, or Bundestag, and tomorrow in the upper house, the Bundesrat, are not binding.

But they are expected to give Kohl the support he needs before EMU is sealed by European Union leaders next month.

Deputies will be asked to approve a statement backing a European Commission proposal to start EMU in January with all 11 EU members that had sought to join the first wave.

Unlike the Bundesbank, the Bundestag does not plan to scold Italy and Belgium, whose high level of debt was cited by the central bank as a risk to EMU stability.

The draft declaration approved by the finance committee on Tuesday says EU members have made great progress in bringing their economies in line ahead of EMU and that euro would be an important step towards greater political union.

In a brief critical note, it added: "The Bundestag expects that the federal government will continue to work towards ensuring the sustainability of convergence achieved thus far as called for in the Maastricht Treaty," the statement said.

Kohl's conservative alliance of Christian Democrats (CDU), the Bavarian Christian Social Union (CSU) and the junior coalition partner Free Democrats is due to back the euro.

Likewise, broad support is expected from the opposition SPD and environmentalist Greens.

Only the reform communist Party of Democratic Socialism (PDS) and a handful of deputies from the main parties are expected to dissent, party officials said.

Wolfgang Schulhof, 67, the only deputy from Kohl's CDU expected to vote against the euro, cited the participation of Italy and Belgium as too great a risk.

"The group of participants that has been chosen is too large and full of risks," he said. "If EMU is launched like this then we will have a Europe with a soft currency."

Liesel Hartenstein, 69, is one of four SPD deputies who have said they will vote against launching the euro next year.

"It will lead inevitably to companies moving out of high wage countries and will certainly intensify the wave of mergers we already see, which we know leads to job losses," she said.

STUDY

Continued from Page 1

Farrakhan's speeches in 1997 "were less overtly antisemitic," the report said, as he tried to gain mainstream political support. "Nevertheless, his anti-Semitism was apparent on a number of occasions, when he remained unrepentant and unapologetic," the report said.

Antisemitic materials like The Protocols of the Elders of Zion continued to be available at gatherings where Farrakhan appeared.

Rosen, who has extensive contacts with the Vatican, said the recent Vatican document on the Holocaust may have fallen short of some Jews' expectations, but "it is the first document that formally deals with the whole question of the Holocaust... and what was not done," making it very significant for combatting Holocaust-deniers.

While the study found that antisemitic expressions continued to be widespread in the Arab press last year, they were down somewhat, in an apparent reaction to American and other pressures.

While a Jordanian shop-owner may have displayed a sign saying; 'No dogs, no Jews,' Esty Wegman of the center noted there was "a new, emerging trend" led by Arab intellectuals such as Prof. Eduard Said to acknowledge Jewish suffering in the Holocaust, so as to gain greater sympathy for their own plight and promote coexistence.

PARDONS

Continued from Page 1

Weizman promised to take into account the recommendations when weighing the numerous requests for pardons his office has received.

"I shall use my discretion and if I have differences of opinion with the recommendations, I shall consult the justice minister," Weizman said.

The president's pardons are formally based on a recommendation from the minister.

Asked about prisoners who would be denied pardons, Weizman said: "The expectations were too high to start off. I said initially that I opposed a general amnesty."

HOLOCAUST

Continued from Page 1

"The effort of their own personal rehabilitation brought them face to face with an additional test of heroism – no less than the test of heroism of the battles and the camps. They asked for nothing, investing all their efforts and all their strength into establishing the State of Israel."

Last night's ceremony began with the national flag being lowered to half-mast, the six flames of remembrance lit by six survivors in the Warsaw Ghetto Plaza of Yad Vashem, and the Kaddish recited by Sephardic Chief Rabbi Eliahu Bakshi-Doron.

In his address, President Ezer Weizman made an impassioned appeal for aliya, calling on Jews not to wait for times of trouble to move to Israel, but to come now.

"There is no doubt," he said, "that a population of six, seven, eight million Jews would have a tremendous impact on the county's strength, economy, and culture."

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Is the spirit of Tiananmen back?

With the release of a second prominent dissident, reform is more openly debated on Chinese campuses and in the media

By STEVEN MUFSON

BEIJING – The intellectual seeds of liberal political reform are sprouting here, making this the most open spring since the massive pro-democracy demonstrations in Tiananmen Square were crushed nine years ago.

Influential intellectuals here in the capital are talking about promoting individual rights, expanding low-level direct elections, shrinking government and scaling back the ubiquitous role of the Communist Party.

A professor from the elite Communist Party school has blasted the "climate of fear" that he says impedes free speech. A leading business newspaper has hailed a "third liberation of thinking" and devoted two pages to excerpts from *Crossed Swords*, a book that harshly attacks orthodox Marxist "leftists."

"Recently, the general environment has relaxed," said Mao Yushi, whose recent essay, "Liberalism, Equal Status and Human Rights," has put him in demand on China's long-dormant college lecture circuit. On a Saturday night in March, 150 students at the Chinese Geological University here crowded into a lecture hall to hear the 69-year-old economist praise Western liberalism, denounce the late Communist chairman Mao Zedong and call for human rights.

Beijing's spring appears to reflect a growing awareness within the party's senior ranks that it must move forward on political reform as Chinese society changes and the economy grows more complex and sophisticated. The party can no longer dictate every aspect of the economy or people's lives, nor easily represent the diverging interests of state workers, entrepreneurs, peasants and city residents.

What started early this year as a debate among a few influential academics has moved this month into the state-run mass media, from Shenyang in the northeast to Shenzhen in the south.

"Only in a democratic environment can people dare to voice new opinions and can their intelligence, wisdom and ability be fully brought into play," central party school professor Shen Baoxiang was quoted as saying by the *China Economic Times* this month. "If we don't encourage people to think freely and voice new opinions, our society will actually be utterly stagnant, though it may seem tranquil." Many liberals wield economic arguments, noting that economic progress cannot rely on a handful of officials and experts. China's 1.2 billion people "are not only a 'labor force,' they are also the world's largest thought warehouse and brain. We can thus use the magic weapon of freedom of thought to achieve success," Hu Weixi wrote in a March issue of a magazine called *Fangfa* ("Way").

The opening is limited, and for the time being, true free speech and democracy remain distant. Open debate is a relative concept.

For example, Li Bifeng from Sichuan, jailed for five years after the 1989 demonstrations, was arrested again this month for publicizing incidents of labor unrest. Police also seized written materials from Xu Wenli, briefly detaining the veteran dissident who has called on China's legislature to allow independent trade unions and challenged the government to live up to the United Nations human-rights covenant it agreed to sign.

Nonetheless, many intellectuals here say this is the most fertile time in a decade for debate about China's political future.

Mao, the economist with the same name as the Chinese Revolution leader, traces the relaxation to January, when Reform Magazine's 10th anniversary issue featured a hard-hitting article titled "We Should Also Champion Political Reform," by Li Shenzhi, 76, a prominent reformer and the retired vice president of the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences.

The "implementation of political reform will determine the ultimate success or failure of economic reform," Li wrote. Rejecting the government line that feeding people is the top human-rights priority, Li said China must adopt universal human rights.

In February, Mao, who in 1993 retired from the academy and established an independent economic think tank called Unirule, organized a forum to discuss a new Chinese translation of *The Constitution of Liberty*, a long-banned book by one of socialism's harshest critics – the late Austrian Nobel laureate Friedrich Hayek, a philosopher and economist. In the 1960 work Hayek argued, "A society that does not recognize that each individual has values of his own which he is entitled to follow can have no respect for the dignity of the individual and cannot really know freedom." About 50 Chinese academics and government policy-makers showed up to talk about the book's relevance to China. "Hayek refuted the idea that the ideal system could be artificially designed," Mao said. "He said it comes out of gradual evolution." In contrast to Communist China's emphasis on class, commune and work units, Mao stresses respect for individual rights, including the right to pursue one's self-interest. "What I'm saying is that in the market economy, the individual has the right to protect the benefits of himself, while at the same time he has to observe others' rights," Mao said. "We need a society of equal status." That has not always been the case in China, as Mao knows from experience. He was branded a rightist in 1957, his works barred from publication, his salary cut, his job taken away and his rights revoked. It took years to restore his career, and when he was invited to join the Communist Party during the 1980s, he refused.

No longer an outcast, Mao was interviewed recently by Liaoning provincial television on his fast-selling book titled *The Future of Chinese Ethics*. In addition to his talk last month at the geology institute, he is slated to appear at Beijing University.

The magazine Fangfa published a special March issue on political reform, including articles on limited government, property rights, the separation of party and government, and corruption's link to Confucian culture.

"The most pressing issue is the separation of the powers of the government and the party," said Fangfa's assistant editor, Li Ke.

Perhaps for political cover as much as for historical accuracy, editor Li and others in this loosely knit liberal intellectual community argue that their views grow directly from the wishes of China's leadership. Li cites a comment by the late leader Deng Xiaoping, and pulls from a drawer a speech by President Jiang Zemin last September, pointing to a sentence about expanding democracy.

Some people believe Jiang was further encouraged to loosen controls on political debate by his October trip to the US. In January, Jiang told the Central Discipline Inspection Commission that Asian governments are too "feudal," which some analysts took as another signal of relaxation. In March, newly selected Premier Zhu Rongji held a free-wheeling press conference that further emboldened China's liberals.

The recent ferment carries extra meaning because of echoes of the past. In 1988, leading intellectuals debated political reform and held meetings on college campuses. Then, nine years ago this week, the death of Hu Yaobang, the ousted general secretary of the Communist Party and a patron of political reform, sparked weeks of student-led protests in Tiananmen Square that eventually were crushed in the bloody June 4, 1989, army crackdown.

Until this year, Hu has been a taboo subject, and political reform has been a sensitive one. Zhao Ziyang, the reformist Communist Party chief ousted in May 1989 on the eve of the military crackdown, remains under loose house arrest in Beijing.

In 1989, as now, a visit by a foreign leader was seen as a restraint on repressive action by the Chinese government. In May 1989, Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev visited Beijing. In June, President Clinton will travel to China, and many analysts predict that China's leaders will refrain from harsh repression before then.

But participants in this year's debates say it isn't a rerun of 1989. "What happened at the end of the 1980s – the 'political disturbance,' to use the prevailing political lingo – has made people cooler and more reasonable," said Fangfa editor Li, who is a party member.

Another intellectual said, "You can speak about liberalism, but you can't say 'Down with the Chinese Communist Party.'" Change, he said, would come from within the party.

"Both the government and the people learned lessons from that event," said Mao of Unirule. "The government knows that kind of suppression carries a very high cost, especially in terms of the international response, and at the same time the people know that in case of emergency, the government may open fire. So both sides are very cautious."

(The Washington Post)

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On being a Rothschild

A GILT-EDGED LIFE: Memoir by *Edmund de* Rothschild. London, John Murray. 243 pp. £22.50.

By Shimshon Arad

The Rothschilds have been around for over 200 years and their claim to fame was for generations linked more to banking than to writing books. When they sought to tell the family's extraordinary story, they would engage professional writers to do the job. Their remarkable achievement, however, is that distinct skills other than sheer banking have managed to surface in the course of history and some exceptionally good scientists and writers – not to speak of producers of excellent wine and masters of gardening – have added luster and variety to their lineage.

Edmund de Rothschild was born in London in 1916. He is the grandson of Leopold de Rothschild, whose own grandfather, Nathan Mayer, had been the founder of the dynasty. From the very beginning of the book, one is struck by the unabashed matter-of-fact description of the world as seen by the Rothschilds. It was not common at the time, but the Prince of Wales did attend the wedding of Edmund's grandfather. The author finds it of interest to point out that it was the first time that the prince went to a Jewish wedding. In the same vein, Edmund's father's attendance at Harrow and Cambridge is also recorded. So is his father's membership in the House of Commons – as a Conservative. But that did not indicate necessarily a political preference. One of the Rothschild's daughters, with the good biblical name of Hannah, was married to the Liberal prime minister Lord Rosebery.

The significance of his mother's lineage is also noted. She was a great-great niece of the composer Giacomo Meyerbeer, not a pedigree to sniff at. Besides motoring, says Edmund, his father also shared a passion for power-boat racing. Most of the members of the Rothschild dynasty "have been considerate hosts," and at Ascott, Edmund's grandparents' guests included King Edward VII, with whom the author's grandfather and his brothers had been friends since their days at Cambridge.

During the spring and early summer flowering season, Edmund's parents had regular weekend house parties. Again, it is important for the author to mention some of the more distinguished names like Mr. and Mrs. Winston Churchill, the Duke and Duchess of Marlborough, Edwin Montagu, the former secretary of state for India, and Sir Alexander and Lady Cadogan. In 1925, Edmund's parents received their first royal visitor in their country estate, Exbury. While King George V was racing his yacht Britannia, Queen Mary came over to tea. In 1931, Queen Mary came again, this time with the king. When the Prince of Wales came to visit in 1934, he arrived by aeroplane and greatly annoyed Edmund's father because the prince landed at Exbury rather than at the regular aerodrome, where it had been arranged to meet him by car. In 1936, the Duke and Duchess of York came to stay for the night just a few months before they became King George VI and Queen Elizabeth.



U. KEREN

Edmund de Rothschild

In an absolutely amazing flow of memoirs, the author switches from royalty to his bar mitzva that took place at the Great Synagogue in Duke Street, where it is significant for him to say that his father was a warden of the synagogue. On the Day of Atonement, his father used always to go there to read the Book of Jonah. He also remembers and cites the preparation for his bar mitzva. Once the Scroll of the Law had been brought from the Ark to the lectern, the reader summoned Edmund by his Hebrew name Solomon, and with his father at his right side and the reader holding a silver pointer at his left, Edmund-Solomon read, "or rather chanted," a portion of the book of Exodus. The passage he read recounted God's injunction to Moses and Aaron to ask Pharaoh to send the children of Israel out of Egypt. That theme had a lasting impact on the young Rothschild.

Edmund notes that his father had been the first Jewish boy to go to Harrow, and his uncle Tony was the first Jew to become head of school. At Harrow, the Jewish boys were ragged a bit for not eating pork, but "otherwise suffered from no special prejudice." In the morning, they did receive instruction in "our religion from Rabbi Berman," though none of the boys, admits Edmund, "paid him serious attention." His uncle Evelyn was mortally wounded in 1917 while serving with his regiment in Palestine. Another uncle, Tony, was wounded in Gallipoli.

The fortune and the august status of the Rothschilds in Britain never let them forget their pride in being Jews. Edmund tells the story of his friendship with Jock Colville, a contemporary at Cambridge who would later become Churchill's private secretary. In one of his visits to Exbury, the young Colville was "singing the praise of Nazi Germany," where he had been studying at Tubingen University. Edmund's father was so outraged that he sent a letter to Colville's mother in which he said: "Your son comes to stay in my house, shoots my pheasants, drinks my champagne, smokes my cigars and tell me there is a lot to be said for Hitler."

This was a few years before the Rothschilds themselves – the Austrian branch, and then the French cousins – were arrested and had their possessions sequestrated by Hitler's invading armies. All the Rothschild homes, estates and art collections in Austria were confiscated. Precisely during those dramatic years – 1938-39 – young Edmund traveled for many months around the world. He kept a diary, and some of his entries reflect his Jewish involvement. In New Zealand, he promised the rabbi to give a lecture to the community. In Wellington there was a discussion about the forming of a joint Jewish Social Centre. He flew on to Singapore, and while there he spoke in aid of funds for the Jewish refugees. In India he visited the Jews of Cochin, but he also met Mr. Jinnah, the leader of the Moslem League of India, who said to the young Rothschild that he sympathized with the Jews. And in Kabul, Afghanistan, a Rothschild naturally saw the prime minister, but he also met the Jews.

Back in London, joining the effort to raise funds for Jewish refugees and aiding those wishing to go to Palestine, were the inevitable things to do. Then came the war, when Edmund was an officer in the Royal Artillery. The points he feels necessary to mention fit into this unique pattern of the Rothschild breed: the fact that Field Marshal Alexander announced that every person of the Jewish faith who so wished should attend a special Pessah ceremony. That was in Italy in 1943. Following the liberation of Rome in June 1944, Edmund de Rothschild was granted an audience with the Pope, "and as a Jew I felt doubly proud."

The apex of Edmund's romance with his ancestry came in November 1944 when he decided to apply to join the Jewish Brigade under the command of Brigadier Benjamin. He was immensely proud of the artillery battery he was assigned to command, he was moved to have the Magen David on his truck. His wedding ceremony in 1948 was held at New West End Synagogue, and Jock Colville was one of the ushers.

This Rothschild has managed to keep intimate relations with the British aristocracy and maintain full and continuous involvement with things related to Jews and Israel. It is a heritage that many of the Rothschilds really care to cherish.

Octavio Paz, Mexican literary giant



Nobel laureate and Jerusalem Prize winner Octavio Paz, who died on Sunday at the age of 84, was not only one of Mexico's finest poets but also an incisive political essayist and outspoken critic of dictatorships.

Paz spoke out vehemently against injustice throughout his creative life. Although a Latin American to his bones, Paz could not be circumscribed by a geographical label.

The winner of the 1990 Nobel Prize for Literature, Paz will best be remembered for his poetry, although he sometimes doubted the value of his own work.

"Poetry is the memory of the people and the great creator of ghosts," he said in a television interview that coincided with the August 1997 publication of *Obra Poetica*, an anthology of his poetry.

A one-time diplomat, Paz was a prolific writer whose literary career began when he was only 17. His distinctive surrealistic verse had broad appeal and received the acclaim of critics internationally.

His recent works include the book *Vislumbres de la India* ("Glimpses of India"), published in 1995. A collection of his poetry called *Lo Mejor de Octavio Paz* or "The Best of Octavio Paz" came out in 1989.

Born in Mexico City on March 31, 1914, Paz attended the National Autonomous University of Mexico and achieved international prominence in 1937, when he attended the Congress of Anti-Fascist Writers called by the Republican side in the 1936-39 Spanish Civil War.

He then pursued a career as a diplomat while writing poetry and essays in his spare time.

One of his first assignments was as a secretary at the Mexican Embassy in Paris in 1945. This posting was followed by a stint as chargé d'affaires in Japan before Paz was named ambassador to India in 1962.

He resigned as ambassador in 1968 after the October 2 "Tlatelolco massacre," when Mexico City police fired at youths protesting against a wide range of issues including government repression of student activists and spending on the summer Olympic Games in Mexico.

A self-described "disillusioned leftist," Paz's early fascination with socialism faded after he became aware of the lack of political and cultural freedoms in the Soviet Union and Cuba.

From the late 1970s, in a move that made him unpopular with some Latin American intellectuals, Paz led a personal crusade against what he perceived as the threat of Soviet and Cuban intervention in Latin America.

"The most active and effective agent of totalitarian Russian expansion in Latin American is the regime of Fidel Castro," Paz wrote in one essay.

He described Nicaragua, whose 1979-90 leftist government was widely supported by Mexican intellectuals and journalists, as "a Cuban-style, bureaucratic-military dictatorship." Defending his harsh view of Nicaragua in an essay Paz said: "The national interests of Mexico are not those of Washington but they aren't Havana's either." Paz saw his opposition to the Soviet Union vindicated with the fall of the Berlin Wall in 1989 and the following year he called a controversial international conference to discuss the consequences.

Paz's biographer Elena Poniatowska said of the conference: "You held the funeral of Communism in front of 50 intellectuals from around the world." No stranger to controversy, Paz also raised the hackles of the Catholic Church with a 1982 essay on Sor Juana, a 17th-century Mexican poet and nun caught up in the "snares of faith." In what is perhaps his best-known book, *The Labyrinth of Solitude*, Paz offers a controversial and often startling analysis of modern Mexico and the Mexican personality.

In the book, which many Mexicans shun as an unfair portrait, Paz describes his fellow countrymen as instinctive "nihilists" who hide behind masks of solitude and ceremoniousness.

Paz's extensive work includes a large body of criticism on literature and art, anthropology and culture that has earned him a reputation as a man of wide-ranging intelligence. He also translated poetry into Spanish from English, French, Portuguese and Japanese.

Many of his critical works are perhaps too specialized to gain popularity outside academic circles, but in his poetry he has managed to transcend those barriers.

Doubting the value of his own work, however, Paz asked: "Wouldn't it be better to transform life into poetry than to make poetry with life?"

Paz lived most of the year in an apartment on Paseo de Reforma, the broad thoroughfare that cuts through downtown Mexico City. He married French artist Marie-Jose Tramini in 1964 and they have one child.

In recent months he was in and out of hospital and suffered from phlebitis, a condition that causes circulation problems and restricts mobility. He was also very depressed after a fire in his home in December 1996 destroyed his life-long collection of books and artifacts.

His last public appearance was at the December 1997 launching of the Octavio Paz Foundation.

When he wasn't writing Paz devoted much of his time to *Vuelta*, a literary monthly which he edited and published.

In addition to teaching jobs at such universities as Cambridge and Harvard, Paz had been made an honorary member of the American Academy of Arts and Letters, received a Guggenheim fellowship and the Grand Prix International de Poesie.

(Reuter, with a contribution by Ana Flaschner)

Sex, intrigue and bootlegging

THE WRONG KIND OF MONEY by Stephen Birmingham. New York, Dutton, 406 pp. $24.95.

By Morton I. Teicher

Although bestselling writer Stephen Birmingham has written more than 25 books – both fiction and non-fiction – he is perhaps best known among Jews for his chronicle of upper-crust Jews, *Our Crowd*. Many of his other works have featured the immigrant origins and the rise to riches of America's elite families. He maintains this theme in his latest novel, *The Wrong Kind of Money*.

This tale of sex and intrigue features the Ingrahams, a thinly disguised version of the Bronfman family and the fortune they made out of Seagrams whiskey. Just as the Bronfman millions were based on bootlegging from Canada during Prohibition, so is the case with their fictional counterparts. Mixing fact and fiction, Birmingham tells about Jules Liebling of Montreal and his founding of the family fortune by clandestinely sending whiskey across Lake Erie, where his distributors included Al Capone and Meyer Lansky.

Although there are flashbacks in which Liebling's story is told, most of the book occurs in the present after Liebling's death. His widow, Hannah, runs the company, putting off the accession to power of their son, Noah, who, at age 48, is impatiently waiting for his mother either to die or to turn over the reins to him. He is married to Carol, who shares her husband's impatience, even though his large salary makes it possible for them to live very lavishly. They have an 18-year-old daughter, Anne, who brings home from Bennington her classmate Melody.

Each year, Hannah offers to turn over the business to Noah if he will agree to employ her sister Bathy, and each year he steadfastly refuses. Eventually, the reason for his stubbornness comes out, enabling Hannah to ease her condition for making Noah the president of the company.

The story is complicated by the presence of Noah's ne'er do well sister and gay brother whose adventures figure peripherally in the central plot. More important is the involvement of a socially prominent WASP family whose troubled business could be rescued by the Ingraham company. To achieve this goal, they presumably overcome their anti-semitism to curry favor with the Lieblings. This sub-plot enables Birmingham to demonstrate his familiarity with high society in New York. An especially appealing aspect of this part of the story focuses on how a Jew is invited to join the board of the Metropolitan Museum of Art which, at the time, had no Jewish members.

Noah's adulterous fling leads to the more dramatic episodes of the book, but these are less compelling than the secret scandals of the Liebling family that are gradually revealed. These secrets come out through hints and innuendoes as Birmingham moves back and forth in time and place, sometimes creating unnecessary confusion. He also injects himself from time to time with cutesy asides to the reader that add little to the flow of the narrative. Despite these failings, the book succeeds in holding the reader's interest. More important, *The Wrong Kind of Money* continues to display Birmingham's knowledge about the secrets of New York society – both Jewish and non-Jewish. If you are titillated by such arcane information, then this is a book for you.

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BOOK BYTES

Times New Roman, Helvetica and Courier are names of commonly used type faces which, thanks to the computer, people may have heard of. But most of us would still be hard-pressed to identify them. Still less well known are the names of typographers like Eric Gill, Stanley Morison, Frederic Goudy and especially Jan Tschichold.

Tschichold's work is, nevertheless, familiar to millions: from 1947 to 1949 he developed and standardized the typography and design of Penguin Books, and so laid down many principles of typographic design used to this day.

When the Nazis came to power, Tschichold emigrated to Switzerland. The Swiss, on whom he depended for employment, disliked the so-called "New Typography." So he took up Penguin's offer, and, according his biography, *Jan Tschichold: A Life in Typography*, by Ruari McLean and Elaine and Lustig Cohen (Princeton Architectural), "Tschichold asked for a copy of every single piece of printed paper used by Penguin, as well as examples of all their books, some 500 in number. Tschichold annotated every item with his criticisms in pencil." In three short years there, his biographers point out, "he had done more to improve the standards of British book production than any other single book designer had ever done." The effects were felt in America and on the Continent as well. Tschichold eventually returned to Switzerland, where he died in 1972.

Tschihold's 1928 classic *Die neue Typographie* was translated into English as *The New Typography* in 1995.

IAIN PEARS, 43, who received his doctorate in art history from Oxford University, has now returned to live in Oxford after an eight-year stint as a Reuters correspondent in Italy, France and the US. As a historian, he sees many similarities between Restoration England and our own times. The mid-1600s was "a period when a great ideology and movement suddenly collapsed (Puritanism and Republicanism then, socialism now), leaving people with a disjointed sense of who they were; also because (then as now) people had to confront the dangers and opportunities of scientific advance." Pears's new historical murder mystery, *An Instance of the Fingerpost* (Putnam), is set in Restoration Oxford of 1663. On one level, it is the story of the arsenic poisoning of an unpleasant Fellow of New College, and the servant girl Sarah Blundy, who is accused of his murder. Beyond the plotline is the chronicle of an age in flux.

In addition to his fiction, Pears has written books on art and art history, including *The Discovery of Painting: Growth of Interest in the Arts in England, 1680-1768*. However, his artistic abilities do not extend beyond writing. He candidly admits he has absolutely no artistic aspirations – "luckily for the world. I can't draw, can't paint, and my singing frightens the animals."

IF THE RICH and famous don't write intimate revelations about themselves, then their children will. In *Alina: Memorias del Hija Rebelde de Fidel Castro* (Bantam; Spanish publ. Plaza y Janes), Castro's only and illegitimate daughter recalls her father's first gift to her as a baby – a bearded doll replica of himself in army fatigues.

In Cuba Alina Fernandez, 40, worked as a model and public relations director for a fashion company. Three years ago she left Cuba and now lives in the US. And what became of her Fidel doll? She tore off the beard to make the doll "look more like herself."

David Brauner

The New York Times BESTSELLERS

HARDCOVER *Fiction*

1. **The Long Road Home** by Danielle Steel. (Delacorte $25.95.) A woman who grew up in a fractured family tries to find the courage to confront the past.
2. **Black and Blue** by Anna Quindlen. (Random House $23.) After her husband turns violent, a woman flees to Florida with her young son.
3. **Pandora** by Anne Rice. (Knopf $19.95.) A 2000-year-old vampire recounts her experiences.
4. **The Street Lawyer** by John Grisham. (Doubleday $27.95.) A young lawyer discovers his prestigious firm's dirty secret.
5. **Message in a Bottle** by Nicholas Sparks. (Warner $20.) After finding a seaborne bottle containing an enigmatic letter, a divorced woman finds love.
6. **Cold Mountain** by Charles Frazier. (Atlantic Monthly $24.) A Confederate soldier journeys home to meet an old love.
7. **Paradise** by Toni Morrison. (Knopf $25.) A small Black utopia in rural Oklahoma experiences tragedy and regeneration when it encounters the real world.
8. **Memoirs of a Geisha** by Arthur Golden. (Knopf $25.) The life of a young woman in prewar Kyoto.
9. **Homeport** by Nora Roberts. (Putnam $23.95.) An art expert's troubles lead her to seek counsel from a thief.
10. **Toxin** by Robin Cook. (Putnam $24.95.) When his daughter becomes seriously ill after eating fast food, a physician takes on a hospital and the meat industry.

HARDCOVER *Non-fiction*

1. **Tuesdays with Morrie** by Mitch Albom. (Doubleday $19.95.) A sportswriter tells of his weekly visits to his old college mentor.
2. **Talking to Heaven** by James Van Praagh. (Dutton $22.) A "world-famous medium" discusses communication with the other side.
3. **Angela's Ashes** by Frank McCourt. (Scribner $24.) An Irish-American recalls his childhood amid the miseries of Limerick.
4. **The Gifts of the Jews** by Thomas Cahill. (Talese/Doubleday ($23.50.) What Western civilization owes an ancient tribe.
5. **Spin Cycle** by Howard Kurtz. (Free Press $25.) A journalist reports on how "the Clinton propaganda machine" deals with scandals and the press.
6. **The Millionaire Next Door** by Thomas J. Stanley and William D. Danko. (Longstreet $22.) Wealthy Americans have seven characteristics in common.
7. **Amazing Grace** by Kathleen Norris. (Riverhead $24.95.) A poet's religious faith.
8. **Aphrodite** by Isabel Allende. (Harper Flamingo $26.) A novelist celebrates the pleasures of food and sex.
9. **Conversations with God: Book 1** by Neale Donald Walsch. (Putnam $19.95.) The author addresses questions of good and evil, guilt and sin.
10. **Into Thin Air** by Jon Krakauer. (Villard $24.95.) An account of the ascent of Mount Everest in 1996, the deadliest season in history.

PAPERBACK *Fiction*

1. **Pretend You Don't See Her** by Mary Higgins Clark. (Pocket $7.99.) A chance witness to a murder must live anonymously to save her life.
2. **Here on Earth** by Alice Hoffman. (Berkley $13.) Returning to her Massachusetts hometown after 19 years, a woman encounters her old love.
3. **Sanctuary** by Nora Roberts. (Jove $7.50.) A photographer, coming to grips with her past, returns to the Georgia Inn that her family operates.
4. **A Thin Dark Line** by Tami Hoag. (Bantam $6.99.) A Louisiana deputy's determination to correct a botched murder case carries her into a morass of treachery.
5. **The Partner** by John Grisham. (Island/Dell $7.99.) The pursuit of $90 million stolen by a Mississippi lawyer.
6. **Plum Island** by Nelson DeMille. (Warner $7.99.) A detective probes the murder of a Long Island couple who may have been involved in germ warfare research.
7. **Divine Secrets of the Ya-Ya Sisterhood** by Rebecca Wells (Harper Perennial $13.50.) Three generations of Southern women.
8. **London** by Edward Rutherfurd. (Fawcett $7.99.) Two thousand years of life in Britain's capital as seen through the eyes of six families.
9. **Out to Canaan** by Jan Karon. (Penguin $12.95.) Volume 4 of "The Mitford Years," a series about life in a small Carolina town.
10. **Evening Class** by Maeve Binchy. (Dell $7.50.) Secrets, aspirations, and passions surface during a course in Italian at a Dublin school.

PAPERBACK *Non-fiction*

1. **James Cameron's Titanic** by Ed W. Marsh. Photographs by Douglas Kirkland. (Harper Perennial $20.) Illustrated account of the making of the film.
2. **Into Thin Air** by Jon Krakauer. (Anchor/Doubleday $7.99.) Description of the ascent of Mount Everest in 1996, the deadliest season in history.
3. **A Night to Remember** by Walter Lord. (Bantam $5.99.) An historian looks at the Titanic disaster.
4. **The Leonardo DiCaprio Album** by Brian J. Robb. (Plexus/Publishers Group West $15.95.) A biography.
5. **Leonardo DiCaprio: A Biography** by Nancy Krulik. (Archway/Pocket $4.50.)
6. **Under the Tuscan Sun** by Frances Mayes. (Broadway $13.) A celebration of the Italian countryside by a poet.
7. **A Child Called "It"** by Dave Pelzer. (Health Communications $9.95.) The autobiography of a man who survived his mother's abuse.
8. **Leonardo DiCaprio: Modern-Day Romeo.** by Grace Catalano. (Laurel-Leaf/Dell $4.99.) Life of the actor.
9. **The Color of Water** by James McBride. (Riverhead $12.) A Black writer and musician recalls growing up with his white mother.
10. **Titanic: An Illustrated History** by Don Lynch. Paintings by Ken Marschall. (Madison Press/Hyperion $29.95.) The construction, launching, sinking and rediscovery of the liner.

PAPERBACK *Miscellaneous*

1. **Don't Sweat the Small Stuff ... and It's All Small Stuff** by Richard Carlson. (Hyperion $8.95.) How to enjoy life much more and contribute to the world we live in.
2. **The Beanie Baby Handbook 1998** by Les Fox and Sue Fox. (West Highland $6.95.) A new edition and a guide for collectors of the toys.
3. **Dr. Atkins' New Diet Revolution** by Robert C. Atkins. (Avon $6.50.) Ways to lose weight and achieve a healthy body.
4. **Chicken Soup for the Teenage Soul** compiled by Jack Canfield et al. (Health Communications $12.95.) Inspirational stories.

HARDCOVER *Miscellaneous*

1. **The 9 Steps to Financial Freedom** by Suze Orman. (Crown $23.) Ways to manage your money now and in the future.
2. **Simple Abundance** by Sarah Ban Breathnach. (Warner $17.95.) Advice for women seeking to improve the way they look at themselves.
3. **Eight Weeks to Optimum Health** by Andrew Weil. (Knopf $23.) A physician's diet, exercise and psychological program.
4. **In the Meantime** by Iyanla Vanzant (Simon & Schuster $23.) Ways to find what you truly need, particularly "the love that you want."

THE JERUSALEM POST

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Peace moves on the Nile

The founding yesterday of the Cairo Peace Movement – the first such movement ever in the Arab world – could be an event worthy of consideration, if it proves to be more than a public-relations move. The "cold peace" with Egypt has long been a strong disappointment for Israelis, whose great hopes were stirred by Anwar Sadat's initiative in 1977. The cold breezes were largely fed by leading Egyptian intellectuals. If they are now expressing a willingness to change their tone, even if it is 20 years later than what could ideally be expected, it could be a signal of shifting thoughts in the first Arab nation to sign a peace agreement with Israel.

In virtually every field in which Israelis have tried to form normal relations with counterparts in Egypt they have been thwarted, time and again, by the cold negative attitude prevalent in all sectors of Egyptian life, most prominently the intellectual class. Whether it be in agricultural relations, university and literary exchanges, or the tourist industry, initiatives aimed at thawing Israeli-Egyptian ties have routinely been met by rejections and cancellations, if not outright hostility. Although the letter of the 1979 peace treaty has been kept, it has been in a correct, cold, and distant manner.

To be sure, the new movement in Cairo is clearly not a sudden flowering of spontaneous mass rethinking. The identities of the movement's founders – including former ambassadors, journalists, and jurists who are related to the Egyptian establishment – indicates that this group almost certainly formed with the approval of the ruling clique in Cairo, or maybe even at its behest. It carefully adheres to the stock phrases of "just and comprehensive peace," based on a Palestinian state and withdrawal from the Golan Heights. The movement's sharp criticism of the Netanyahu government - elected by the Israeli people - does not bode well. Assessing the new movement thus requires taking into account Egypt's ambitions and its evolving relations with Israel and other Middle East players.

First of all, the fact that the peace group will be understood by many in Egypt to have the backing of some of the powers-that-be, means that its message of open dialogue on peace is likely to trickle down to other groups and associations that have kept Israelis away at arms length following cues they received from above. Perhaps some joint projects with Israelis, long shelved, might suddenly be rediscovered and dusted off.

Second, the timing of the founding of the Egyptian peace group, along with Tuesday's surprise announcement that Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu is invited to talks with Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak in Cairo next week, indicates that after a long silence, Egypt is trying to use an opening towards Israel in order to enhance its role in the peace process and the region.

This might be confusing to some who recollect that just recently there was a spate of articles on the expensive modernization and build-up of Egypt's armed forces. Taken in the context of the Egyptian obsession with Egypt's standing and role in the region, however, there is not necessarily a contradiction. As many experts have noted, Egypt's view of itself is based on geo-political and historic considerations going back to the Pharaohs. Egypt has since ancient times been a dominant player in the Middle East, even if occasionally challenged by nations from the Fertile Crescent, or subjugated by conquerors from outside the region, whether from Persia or Britain. In Islamic times it established itself as the leading Arab country, and it was only natural that the Arab world looked to Nasserite Egypt to be in the forefront of the fight against Israel.

Even Sadat's opening to Israel can be explained as Egypt taking a leading role in the Arab world, acting some 20 years ahead of its time in recognizing Israel and waiting for much of the rest of the Arab world to follow. Paradoxically, it was the very success of this that led to Egyptian feelings that their position in the Middle East was threatened, and prompted some of the cold attitudes towards Israel. An isolated Israel was by definition always "outside" the local jockeying for position in the Middle East.

Conversely, the more Israel becomes normalized in the area, the greater its ability to diplomatically throw its considerable weight around and become a leading contender for local hegemony, usurping the role many Egyptians want reserved for their country. Israel, with its military might, crowned by its reputed nuclear capabilities, and especially its powerhouse modern economy, eclipsing all its neighbors combined, came to be viewed in Egyptian statements as a greater threat in peace than in war.

For some time now, there have been two trends of thought in Egypt concerning the response to this perceived threat. One track has held that reducing or eliminating normalization with Israel, while building Egypt's military and strengthening ties with countries such as Syria, is preferable. The other has instead advocated more openness and a more active Egyptian role in the peace process, one that goes beyond just backing Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat and tries to get Egypt to be an honest mediator. Recent signals indicate the latter point of view is now gaining ascendancy. This is to be welcomed. And if the new peace movement actually manages to do something to change anti-Israel attitudes among the intellectuals and masses in Egypt, its contribution will be appreciated indeed.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

CHRISTIAN LESSONS

Sir, – In "Christian sects fight at holy site" (April 19), Haim Shapiro reports about the scuffles that took place at the Church of the Resurrection (Holy Sepulchre) last Saturday.

I am not going to argue about the facts of this story. Suffice it for me to say that such fights are totally unconscionable. This unseemly behavior simply cannot be allowed to become part of the agenda of any Christian faith group in the Holy Land.

While the Status Quo remains the sole and ultimate arbiter of all matters ecclesial, I should nonetheless emphasize that there is no serious problem of relationship between the churches of Jerusalem. After all, the Syrian Orthodox and Armenian Apostolic Churches belong to the same non-Chalecedonian family.

Occasional incidents, like this one among individuals belonging to the same family however, should not be swept under the carpet. Pretending that they do not happen is the policy of the ostrich, and the experienced wisdom of the Church ought to place it above such tactics.

Therefore, might I suggest that community committees be formed from all the churches which enjoy access to the Holy Sepulchre so that they can discuss the logistics and mechanics of coordination prior to any major Christian celebration. Such committees could conceivably even draft a memorandum of understanding which will empower the churches through their leadership to take any concerted action they deem necessary.

Furthermore, the police force should also take its responsibilities seriously and blacklist all troublemakers – regardless of their background – who become involved in any such provocative and aggressive attitudes.

We Christians have learned from our Messiah about compassion, tolerance and forgiveness. Perhaps we can apply them a little more seriously, and a little less territorially, to ourselves.

DR. HARRY HAGOPIAN, LL.D.,
The Middle East Council of Churches,
Executive Director,
Jerusalem Liaison Office.
Jerusalem.

'MISS MANNERS'

Sir, – My husband and I just returned from Tel Aviv, where we attended a wedding. We were shocked to see the young men (about 20) come to this elegant affair in torn dungarees, flannel shirts and dirty sneakers. All over the world when a wedding is held, guests come in their finest clothes for this kind of ceremony.

We were also shocked to see Knesset members appear on television airing their views, with no ties.

In our opinion, this behavior shows an utter disregard of respect for the feelings of others.

In my newspaper *Newsday*, there is a column called "Miss Manners." She writes about proper etiquette for all kinds of occasions. This advice helps prevent insulting people. Our president even has a person in charge of etiquette in the White House so that visiting dignitaries can be given their due respect at state affairs.

Your newspaper should have a column like "Miss Manners" so that people could be advised on proper attire and behavior on all kinds of occasions.

JUDITH WEISS
New York.

NOT THE FIRST

Sir, – I refer to the News of the Muse item of March 30, dealing with Inbal Dance and M.L.D. from Johannesburg, South Africa. You reported, incorrectly, that this is the first time a South African group will perform here. During last year's Karmiel Dance Festival, the mixed-race group of P.A.C.T., also from Johannesburg, performed admirably. Their presence was also made known in this newspaper by a photograph taken of them going through their paces on a beach in Eilat, mid-July last year.

DAVID SAMUEL
Karmiel.

FROM OUR ARCHIVES

65 years ago: On April 23, 1933, *The Palestine Post* reported from Berlin that an official promulgation of a law was expected which would limit the number of Jews to be employed in any enterprise to three percent of the total number of employees. This law would mean that only 20,000 Jews could hope to obtain employment of any kind.

50 years ago: On April 23, 1948, *The Palestine Post* reported that in an 30-hour battle the Hagana crushed all remaining Arab resistance and occupied many large buildings, forcing the Arabs to the only open escape route – the sea. British troops moved out into a small strip of land in the port area, while the Arabs, who suffered heavy casualties, demanded a truce.

Alexander Zvielli



In memory

ELIE WIESEL

Look at the pictures at Yad Vashem, look at them well. Look at them and try to remember things that you have not known. Look at the pictures as we do. In fear and trembling.

I remember: A transport arrived from Hungary. At midnight. I remember the yelling. The shouting. The barking of dogs. I remember the incandescent skies. In a matter of seconds, the community disintegrated. A succession of separations. Old from young. Brothers from sisters. Children from parents. I remember: I looked at those who went off in a different direction, I am still looking. I am afraid: If I stop seeing them, they will die. I keep on seeing them, and yet they died nevertheless.

We could not believe it then; we find it hard to believe now. Aberration or culmination of history, Auschwitz recalls history itself into question. It placed civilization on trial and illustrated its downfall. What was undertaken there by human beings against other human beings will affect generations to come. After Auschwitz, our hope itself is filled with anguish.

Look at the pictures, look at them well. They represent a world that existed beyond reality and beyond imagination – a world that evolved beyond time. Its laws were strange, its customs rigid. And yet, it was a world just like ours: with its rulers and servants, its princes and madmen, its poets and dreamers, its idols and their worshipers. They spoke a new language and followed a new system replacing all those that existed on the outside.

In Auschwitz, men and women looked alike. They had no age, no name, no identity, no individuality, no face; they did not laugh, nor did they cry; they did not smile nor did they curse. They lived in a creation parallel to ours – a creation dominated and willed by death. We lived inside death. The killers themselves were dead – for their humanity had died.

We remember Auschwitz because we believe the world is worthy of salvation

Often I wonder what mystery is greater, the mystery of the killers or that of the victims. What is more baffling: the fact that so many men became murderers, seeing in murder a kind of vocation and fulfillment, or the fact that so many human beings became their victims?

Who were the citizens of that world, of that twisted and distorted demonic United Nations? People from all over Europe – and beyond. They had been brought there for a variety of reasons. Russian prisoners of war, French underground fighters, Dutch and Norwegian and Danish freedom fighters, Polish and Ukrainian and Lithuanian and Belgian men and women who defied Nazi occupation, priests and scholars, homosexuals and Jehovah's witnesses, communists and liberals: oh yes – not all victims were Jews, but all Jews were victims.

JEWS were the principal target of our common enemy. Around one million Jews were exterminated in Auschwitz. Look at the pictures, look at them well: Look and try to see what you cannot see. The old rabbis and their fervent pupils, the desperate mothers and their tears, the children, the endless processions of Jewish children walking towards the flames, the flames that rose to the seventh heaven as if to burn the celestial throne itself.

The children, the children: they will forever haunt us with their silent pleas for some spark of compassion and understanding. How many of them could have helped humankind? How many could have discovered a cure for cancer or other diseases? They vanished. Some of them thrown in the flames – alive. Have they taken our hope with them?

More than 50 years after Auschwitz, we remember Auschwitz not because we seek to arouse compassion or pity for ourselves; it is too late for that.

We remember Auschwitz for the sake of all victims everywhere who suffer. We remember our hunger so as to eliminate starvation today. We remember our anguish so as to proclaim the right of men and women everywhere to live without fear. We remember our death so as to denounce the insanity of violence and the absurdity of war, the ugliness of war, the shame of war.

We remember Auschwitz because we believe that, in spite of the past, the world is worthy of salvation; and salvation can be found in memory – in memory alone.

A fatal encounter

DANIEL DORON

Despite Zionism's stupendous achievements, Israelis are unable to celebrate Israel's upcoming fiftieth anniversary wholeheartedly. Israel is, indeed, beset by great apprehension about both external dangers, foremost a threat from non-conventional weapons, and by sharp internal disunity. But there are deeper roots for our disaffection.

Zionism, it must be admitted, has tragically failed to achieve two of its major objectives: to focus the Jewish people on the return to their land, and to save a significant number of European Jews from destruction. It has been, moreover, exhausted ideologically, morally and materially by its fatal encounter with socialism, and by its embrace of its radical, some say Bolshevik methods, that have left us a sick economy and a bitterly divided society.

At the turn of the century, as after other times of great peril, Jews developed inflamed messianic expectations, that were expressed through a "modern" secular faith, "the religion of work." Since clerical Christian regimes were fomenting a virulent antisemitism and encouraging deadly pogroms, desperate Jews became especially susceptible to the siren song of the French enlightenment.

They contracted its revolutionary zeal to replace ancient regimes with utopian, secular promised lands, where, they believed, not only the social order, but humanity itself would be transformed and redeemed. Socialist "humanism" seemed the modern incarnation then of the biblical promise of universal justice and brotherhood.

When, after the First World War, the old order began rapidly crumbling, socialist redemption seemed even more of a certain hope to many, especially among intellectuals, and more especially among Jewish ones.

Few recalled into what demonic terror and imperialist expansionism utopian revolutions inevitably degenerate. Fewer still could imagine how pathological murderers like Lenin and Stalin would turn their dreams into a nightmare, cynically manipulating the intellectuals' naive proclivity for such "isms" as historic determinism and dialectical materialism; or how a putatively universalist socialism would spawn an even more deadly nationalist socialism, that would emulate its use of the big lie, of terror and destruction to wreak the twentieth century's greatest catastrophe.

It is not surprising, therefore, that Zionism wagered its all on socialism, Eastern European Zionist leaders, who were mostly intellectuals, ironically quite alien to the "normal life" of land-toil in which they sought redemption, internalized the antisemitic calumny, reinforced by socialism, that Jews were parasites because they engaged in "non-productive," "exploitative" capitalist trades. They were therefore not content just to save Jews from a degenerating poverty, and from murderous hatred, but resolved to first redeem the Jewish soul, to transform and purify it by ascetically toiling the soil according to naive Tolstoyan fantasies.

The Zionist leaders' embrace of socialism undermined Zionism and cost the Jewish people very dearly

TO achieve their vision, Zionist leaders demanded from their select followers great sacrifices: to abandon not only their way of life and heritage and whatever survival skills they had acquired, but almost most of their kin, the masses of Jews who were not deemed capable of salvation, because they were either too bourgeois or too religious to be metamorphosed into socialist pioneers.

Like his peers, Chaim Weizmann was fearful that a new Zionist enterprise would be contaminated by the "Nallevky (Warsaw's trading street) mentality." So, following the Balfour Declaration, the Zionist Organization exerted, under his direction, great effort to stop the mass immigration of Jews that were clamoring to leave devastated Europe. It colluded with the British in imposing quotas, so that it could control who would enter.

Claiming the country "was not prepared" to absorb them, because not enough charitable funds were forthcoming to finance its preferred collectivist settlement, the Zionist Organization rejected private initiative and capital which it could not control (this caused the great rift with American Zionism and Justice Brandeis, who foresaw the disastrous consequences of such policies).

Even in 1935 Weizmann told the Zionist Executive: "I fear that we have replaced our dream of salvation with an effort to save Jews...When I weigh in my mind if these people (German Jewish immigrants) are capable of entering the framework of life we are establishing here...I have to state openly, no...Zionism is eternal life, while the saving of thousands of Jews is only a mundane preoccupation..," he averred.

To create this "framework," most Zionist leaders, captive of the Zeitgeist, cast their lot, as did Weizmann, with radical socialism, though its stated ambition was, in David Ben-Gurion's words, "to establish a dictatorship of the Hebrew worker" whose "historical mission was...to lead the movement of liberation and revival of all the nations in the Middle East..." and though this task, Ben-Gurion warned, "was not to be inhibited by democratic prattle."

It was a fatal decision. It has eventually undermined Zionism and cost the Jewish people very dearly, since socialism has almost ruined Zionism's pride, its settlement enterprise, and dragged down Israel's economy and society. What seemed at the turn of the century the Jews' best hope, turned then by its middle into their greatest disaster abroad, and nearly so in Israel.

The View from the East

DAOUD KUTTAB

No peace, no process

British Prime Minister Tony Blair's visit to the region, and the talk of an upcoming visit to London by Israeli and Palestinian leaders has once again raised the question of process versus substance. Senior Palestinian negotiator Saeb Erekat initially told journalists Palestinians were not interested in a London meeting because they were only interested in the substance of what Israel would bring to the new process.

Palestinian National Authority President Yasser Arafat later agreed to the meeting, insisting that all four parties (US, UK, Israel and Palestine) attend. What happened and why did Arafat agree to a meeting with only a change in process, and no appearance of a change in substance from the Israeli side?

Blair's visit came at a time of frustration and pessimism among Palestinians. The Palestinian consensus was that, at the very least, a temporary suspension of the talks by the Palestinian side was needed to send a strong message to Israel. Continuing talks only seemed to serve Israel, which enjoyed the photo opportunities such meetings gave, without having to pay the price for peace.

When Dennis Ross came to the area to brief the region's leaders about the new US initiative, the Palestinians were in a dilemma. If they said no –because it was much less than the Oslo Agreement stipulated – they would be seen as rejectionists and waste an opportunity of getting back at least some land. On the other hand, saying yes to an initiative to which the Israelis have not agreed, could result in a frustrated US having once again to ask Palestinians for further compromises.

The Palestinians gave their principled approval to the initiative, reserving official approval for when they get a written copy of the proposal or when the proposal is made public. But Israel and its friends in the US Congress have gone to unbelievable lengths to bar the Clinton administration from announcing publicly its peace initiative. Never in the history of the US has Congress so blatantly interfered in the working of the executive branch, which has traditionally been the branch that sets US foreign policy.

To appease these pro-Likud Congressmen and Netanyahu's supporters among American Jewry, Clinton sent Ross here once again to meet primarily with the Israelis. No progress took place, and this led to the Blair meeting and the British ideas.

Once again the Palestinian side faced a dilemma: To go or not go to London. The last thing Arafat wants to give Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu is yet another photo opportunity and impression of movement. So while it has become clearer each day that Israel's prime minister is not interested in paying the cost of a genuine peace with Palestinians, he certainly wants a process. It was not long ago that Netanyahu's former boss, Yitzhak Shamir, revealed that in the Madrid process, Israel wanted to drag out the talks for 10 years.

But while it might be easy to reject a summit offer from Netanyahu, it is much harder to refuse a British offer. Blair's invitation to London seems to have been coordinated with the Americans, who are becoming more and more frustrated with Netanyahu but, for domestic reasons, can't come out and say so publicly. If Arafat could somehow use the London meeting to bring the Europeans into the negotiations, that would help ease the Palestinian objections about yet another "process" meeting.

The Palestinian aim in including the Americans and Europeans is not so that these two powers can exert overt pressure on Israel. Palestinians know this is not possible at present. What the Palestinians want is to find a way to break up the asymmetry that exists between Israeli and Palestinian negotiators. With or without agreements, the Israelis, using their tremendous advantage over the Palestinians, continue to dictate the terms.

They release prisoners, when it is convenient for them. Carry out whatever clause in the interim agreement they wish, build settlements and by-pass roads at will and insist that decisions dealing with redeployment can only be made by Israel, and according to Israeli interests.

So, for Arafat, even a meeting with Netanyahu and signing an agreement is worthless as long as Israel possesses the land, the port, and controls the lives of Palestinians. The only way out of this dilemma is to include as many neutral and outside powers as possible. Then, at least, Israel's intransigence and arrogance will have many witnesses and the Palestinians will no longer feel the pressure of participating in a process that leads nowhere.

As for the Palestinian public, their expectations are quite low. As one prominent Palestinian lawyer keeps repeating: "Blessed are those with low expectations for they shall not be disappointed."

Weekender

Anne Frank in Vienna

Israeli soprano Anat Efraty sings the opera 'The Diary of Anne Frank' in front of the Austrian parliament

By MICHAEL AJZENSTADT

On May 5, the official Holocaust memorial day in Austria, young Israeli soprano Anat Efraty will perform the one-act mono-opera *The Diary of Anne Frank* by Russian composer Gregory Fried at the Austrian Parliament before an invited audience which will include all the members of the house.

It will be the first of six performances (until May 13) of the opera (the others taking place at the Odeon Auditorium in Vienna) presented by the Vienna Staatsoper under the baton of Israeli conductor Asher Fisch, musical director of the New Israeli Opera and the Vienna Volksoper.

From her apartment in Vienna, where she has been living for the past two years, Efraty, a member of the prestigious Vienna Staatsoper ensemble, talks with passion and conviction about the upcoming production.

"For the first time in my career, I'm doing not just a cutsie ingenue type of role on stage but a character who has something to say. At long last I can fulfill a dream and say something I believe in through my art."

Efraty is very much involved with the text of the Russian opera, which has already been performed in Israel in Hebrew by Eva Ben-Zvi several years ago, which she will perform in German.

"Towards the end of the opera there is a monologue in which Anne says it is tougher for young-ones than for older people because in such a horrible world, young people cannot maintain their ideals, and even when they have a dream, it is shattered in the face of daily reality. But she immediately contrasts it with a monologue about hope and her belief that God will help them."

Efraty read the diary when she was a young school girl in Israel. "It was something everyone had to read, but I don't think I had returned to it since. Now I of course read it again, as well as any other piece of literature about the period and Anne that I could find."

The conclusion of the opera, Efraty says, "is in a way cosmopolitan, as it deals with the fact that when there is war, there are always people who suffer as a result. Although there is a message here and the work can be universal, I think that at the end, it is a very private story, the story of Anne, this very special adolescent with her sensitivities and sensibilities which not many youngsters can share, the young woman who courageously says that all this has happened to them because they are Jewish."

Toward the end of the opera, Anne sings about the blue skies saying, "as long as the blue skies are there I must not, I cannot, be sad. If people are sad, they should go outside and be in nature with God, then they will be happy. I sincerely believe that nature can soothe pain. When I look at the sky, I believe that there will be an end to this cruelty."

The production of the opera has the singer arriving as a sort of outsider to Anne's world and observing it from the sidelines before slowly getting into it and identifying with and becoming the protagonist herself.



Efraty: 'For the first time in my career, I'm doing not just a cutsie ingenue type of role but a character who has something to say.'

"At the end, though, maybe I am even me, Anat, who has a clear message to the audience, a message of hope yet a message which cannot, which must not, allow us to forget the past. Believe me, there are parts in the opera from which I cannot seem to distance myself yet, and maybe I never will, and I cry," she says.

"This work is not just any other opera; it means much more than that."

Like the protagonist she portrays, Efraty has also written diaries from age nine until 24.

"I look at these diaries now, and it's amazing that although I did not live in such conditions as Anne, things that concerned her concerned me too. She had to grow up very quickly. There is a lot I identify with her. She is temperamental and talkative like I am. There are a lot of amazing similarities between us. Anne could have been almost any girl, an archetype, yet at the same time it could have been only Anne Frank with her sensibilities and very specific personality."

The only thing Efraty is sorry about it that she had to cut her hair very short.

"Everyone says it looks great but for someone who has always dreamed of having long hair reaching down to my waist, this is quite a shock."

That aside, Efraty is very excited before the premiere and naturally, for a young Israeli performing such an opus in Vienna of all places, this is more than symbolic.

"My parents are Holocaust survivors from Rumania, although they were never in camps, as they managed to hide with the help of good Romanian families. But this whole story is my story, it's our story, and it comes very naturally to me."

Summer in the city

By SONIE LEMOR

Summertime is almost here, the lazy days that make you feel like doing nothing except quaffing ice cold cappuccino. Upon embarking on the search for the perfect cup of coffee, I came to the spanking new upscale European-style Hillel Espresso Bar.

You can find the bar on Hillel Street, in the heart of Jerusalem's city center, which houses many of the hip places to eat, drink or just watch people pass by.

About halfway down the street you come across number 8. You can't miss the well-dressed crowd lounging about sipping café latte or munching on a fresh avocado and brie sandwich at the trendy tables outside.

Hillel only opened last Sunday. I walked in and was quite impressed by its appearance. The entire facade is a glass wall, tinted to ensure a bit of privacy.

At the entrance, a rounded wooden bar makes it easy to order take-away without having to battle a crowd. Behind the bar, next to the attractive servers, the freshly baked bread just beckons you to take a day off the pre-summer diet.

Hillel is owner Yossi Sherf's newest project. He has been supplying Jerusalem with cool pubs and coffee shops since the late Eighties. One of my favorite hangouts, The Tzuf, is also owned by Sherf. I noticed that many of the same who's who of the Jerusalem night scene frequent both places.

The atmosphere inside the bar is very warm and intimate. The walls, painted a light cream color, contribute to the clean high-tone impression of the café without making you feel like the place is too sterile to sit down.

The bar itself boasts state-of-the-art espresso machines and a homey wooden finish.

"The place is different than Aroma (an espresso bar down the street)," according to Udi, an architecture student. "I like them both for different reasons. Aroma is for hanging out with friends, and Hillel is a good first-date place."

One of the more impressive aspects of the bar is the fact that the food, apart from being aesthetically presented, is affordable and definitely worth trying.

I had a mozzarella and pesto sandwich, frozen cappuccino and a double espresso for under NIS 30, including tip. Another interesting thing was the varied age of the patrons.

At tables inside the bar were university students sitting next to people who could easily be mistaken for their parents or even grandparents.

Hillel definitely has a busy summer ahead. The espresso bar is open from 7:00 a.m. until at least 1:00 a.m. from Sunday – Thursday.

Being kosher, on Fridays it is open from 7:00 a.m. until Shabbat starts, and on Saturday Hillel opens after sundown and closes after 1:00 a.m.

Hillel, 8 Hillel Street, Jerusalem

AFTER HOURS

Writers on my mind

World Jewish Congress leader Isi Leibler talks about his favorite authors



"I'm crazy about Jewish art books and Judaica," says Isi Leibler, one of world Jewry's most active and powerful proponents. "I have been collecting 19th-century Palestine illustrations for many years," adds the long-time Melbourne resident who spends about half his time at his Jerusalem home.

Having amassed over 30,000 books on a wide variety of Jewish subjects, Leibler says he possesses the largest English-language Jewish library in the world.

"My book collection, which is still in Australia, is not so portable," he quips. "So far I have brought just the Jewish art section."

Born in Belgium, Leibler moved to Australia when he was four years old. He was a member of the B'nai Akiva youth movement which, as he puts it, "was the core of my Jewish life."

Regarding himself as a religious Zionist, Leibler has done a tremendous amount of work on behalf of Israel and world Jewry. In Australia, he was the head of the Jewish community. On an international level, he was a major player in the Soviet Jewry arena and was a key figure in establishing Israel's diplomatic relations in Southeast Asia, specifically China and India.

Leibler is currently chairman of the governing board of the World Jewish Congress. "At present," he says, "I am mainly involved in a major crisis – Jews vs. Jews; religious vs. secular; Orthodox vs. non-Orthodox. If there's any danger in this country, it's from the enemy in our own camp."

"Many Jews have lost their way," he adds. "It's not just land that is at issue, but the Jewish soul."

Leibler asserts that Jews must have tolerance for other Jews. But at the same time, he says we must "radically eliminate the extremists in our midst who think they can suspend the laws of society and morality for a higher end."

National strife notwithstanding, Leibler and his wife, Naomi, are delighted to be in Israel, which he describes as "the greatest country in the world to live in."

Leibler talks about some of his favorite Jewish authors. Although the books themselves may be back in Australia, the texts are very close to his heart.

1. Eli Wiesel

"He is one of the most important writers today. He has an incredible way of communicating. No one has written so well about the horrors of the Holocaust. His book *Night* is the definitive work on that subject."

2. Altman the Scholar and Gershon Scholem

"Both these men wrote extensively on [the 17th century charismatic figure] Shabbtai Zvi. The crisis we're having today has certain parallels with that time. The extremism, the passion, believing he was the Messiah – this finds parallels in religious extremism in the religious Zionist world which I consider myself part of."

3. Isaac Bashevis Singer

"He represents the Eastern European Jewish Diaspora. Each of his books is a gem and a treasure. No one has reflected as well as Singer the beauty and the sadness of the hopes and the disappointments of America. He's the best."

4. A.B. Yehoshua

"Among Israeli writers, A.B. Yehoshua is the best. Contrary to the radicalism he expresses in some of his books, there's also a love and an appreciation for Jewish life. His novel *Mr. Mani* is a masterpiece. He's a wonderful writer."

5. Abraham Joshua Heschel

"He was a Conservative rabbi who wrote books on such subjects as Shabbat, the prophets, and Eastern Judaism. His works are very powerful. He brought out the beauty and the depth of Judaism."

– Ruth Beloff-Begun

Hot tips

By DAHLIA SCHEINDLIN

Tel Aviv

Alternative and eccentric audiences required! *Mangroosim* premieres tonight at the Suzanne Dellal Center. A thoroughly indescribable and immensely captivating blend of movement, dance, social commentary and rock-eating is shown to only 80 viewers at a time. Avital Hitzhari Meislin is the sole, intense performer of this production by Ruth Ziv-Ayal. 9 p.m. at Suzanne Dellal, 9 Yichieli Street, Neveh Zedek, (03) 510-5656.

Along the lines of the surreal, Fringe theater presents *Stefan* tonight at the Zionist Organization of America House. A prize winner at the 1997 Acre festival, the play is a humorous, absurd and intelligent story about four fine upstanding Israeli youngsters. Plays at 9 p.m.

Also at the ZOA is the winner of this year's Israel theater prize for best production, *Murder*, written by the year's best playwright award winner, Hanoch Levin. Bring a serious disposition and a strong stomach for harsh subjects. Showing at 8:30. Call (03) 695-9341.

And without ever leaving the building, grab a mood-lifter at 10:45 p.m., with a pop music show that somehow manages to blend Israeli and British alternative rock. With **Michael Gibson** and **Amitai Sela** on guitars and vocals.

Sexy **Sami Samir** stars in Gesher Theater's young'uns group, who perform a racy ***Don Juan*** at 8:30 p.m., directed by Gesher master Ivgeny Aryeh.

Out of their natural habitat in Jaffa, the performance is being held on Rokeach Blvd., in a tent in the parking lot. Call (03) 566-4888

The evening's jazz is to be found at **Apropos Zahala** with an evening called "Swing," featuring tried and true jazz musicians **Albert Piamenta** on saxophone, **Eli Magen** on bass and **Papo Levy** on drums. Starting at 10 p.m.

The sizzling sound of Latin jazz will grace the space at Camelot tonight, with **Kilombo**, an Israeli group offering originals and covers, starting at 11 p.m. 16 Shalom Aleichem near Ben-Yehuda, (03) 528-5222.

A special treat for Israeli nostalgics: **Dudu Elharar**, who raised a generation of kids on his TV show, sings and tells classic folkloric stories, including "Abu Nimar," "Juha," "The Neighbor" and others.

The performance begins at 8:30 p.m. at Habimah Theater. Cinematheque Tel Aviv is showing ***Truce***, the recent film starring John Turturro playing Primo Levi after his release from Auschwitz. Shows at 9:30 p.m. Late-night types can stick around for pop sci-fi classic ***Dune*** (an early David Lynch film), playing at midnight.

Jerusalem

The hottest new productions on the Israeli theater scene are found in the Holy City this evening. Haifa Theater's impressive production of Joshua Sobol's ***Ghetto***, directed by the playwright himself, is a painful, powerful and true story about a Jewish theater company under the Nazi regime. The show plays at the Jerusalem Theater today and tonight, at 10 a.m., and 8:30 p.m.

An Israeli version of Dennis Potter's ***Blue Remembered Hills***, called *Nof Yaldut*, is playing at the Khan Theater to very pleased audiences. Starts tonight at 8:30 p.m.

The Association of Americans and Canadians in Israel (AACI), is holding a lecture sponsored by its computer club: Zvi Bernhardt of Yad Vashem speaks on the topic of **"The Holocaust and Holocaust Denial on the Internet"** at 7:30 p.m., 6 Mane Street. Call (02) 566-1181

Solemn music can be heard at **Yellow Submarine**: on the program tonight is *Hymns of Hades and Tantrum*. 13 Harehavim St., 9:30 p.m. (02) 656-6611

And Points Beyond

The **Italian Medrano Circus** isn't leaving town until it shows the country its wares: performances today in Beit Shemesh are scheduled for 4 p.m. and 6:30 p.m.

Kiryat Chaim's Northern Theater (Teatron Hatzafon) shows ***Fleisher***, Cameri's long-running success. At 8:30 p.m.

Weekender Food&Drink



Taking the cake

A cake says there's something to celebrate. And now that we've lightened these classics, there is even more reason to jump for joy. By Marge Perry

It was 4 a.m. and the mild contractions and wild anticipation were keeping me from sleep. Then I remembered that I'd given birth before and that it would be hours before I was ready to leave for the hospital. I used the time to go to the kitchen and bake my three-year-old daughter a carrot cake.

Cookies couldn't have delivered her the same message, nor muffins, brownies or a pie. It had to be a cake, a layer cake covered with clouds of white frosting, nobly poised on a tall glass stand, pronouncing to the world that it was made in her honor. That cake was my way of saying I love her and that sharing me with a new baby brother wouldn't be so bad.

Ah, the glory of a cake: No other food has stood so universally as a messenger of love and honor. I try to make sure that my cakes reflect the personality of the event – a homey carrot cake when I'm nurturing, a fancy white layer cake for birthdays, a rich chocolate cake for friends gathered around my table.

A cake makes a statement. This is important. The problem is, cakes also have been statements of fat and calorie overloads – at least until now. We've lightened several of them, lowering the fat content while enhancing the flavor that made them classics.

These are cakes that reflect the times in which they were created. Consider carrot cakes, for example. They belong to a whole family of vegetable cakes devised during World War II, when butter, eggs and sugar were rationed. The combination of sweet vegetables and vegetable oil gave cakes moistness despite the lack of traditional pound cake ingredients.

Then again, some cakes don't have as much history as you might think. German chocolate cake, for example, hails not from Germany, but from America. The original recipe, published in a Texas newspaper in 1957, contained Baker's German's Sweet Chocolate, which Samuel German developed for the chocolate-maker Baker & Co.

Cakes are not only an integral part of our heritage, but they also pepper our everyday speech. I could say you're trying to have things both ways, or I can simply observe that you want to have your cake and eat it too. And how better to describe making these recipes than to say, "It's a piece of cake?"

All this rhetoric and history aside, think of the next cake you bake as the most eloquent of greeting cards, sending your message to all of the senses. Whether it is white and fluffy or dark and dense, your cake will be a delicious emissary.

COCONUT TRIPLE-LAYER CAKE

cooking spray
1 Tbsp. cake flour
3 1/2 cups sifted cake flour
2 tsp. baking powder
3/4 tsp. salt
1/2 tsp. baking soda
1 3/4 cups sugar
1/4 cup butter or margarine, softened
1 1/2 Tbsp. vegetable oil
2 large egg whites
1 2/3 cups low-fat milk
1/2 cup plain low-fat yogurt
2 1/2 tsp. vanilla extract
1/4 tsp. butter extract
fluffy coconut frosting (recipe below)
2/3 cup flaked sweetened coconut

Preheat oven to 175°.

Coat three 20 cm. round cake pans with cooking spray and dust them with 1 Tbsp. flour.

Lightly spoon sifted flour into dry measuring cups and level with a knife. Combine sifted flour, baking powder, salt and baking soda.

Combine sugar, butter and oil in a large bowl and beat at medium speed of a mixer until well-blended (about 5 minutes). Add egg whites, one at a time, beating well after each addition. Combine the milk and yogurt.

Add the flour mixture to the creamed mixture alternately with the milk mixture, beginning and ending with flour mixture. Stir in extracts.

Pour cake batter into prepared pans. Sharply tap cake pans once on countertop to remove air bubbles. Bake at 175° for 25 minutes or until a wooden pick inserted in center of cake comes out clean. Cool in pans 10 minutes on wire racks and remove from pans. Cool completely on wire racks.

Place 1 cake layer on a plate, spread with 2/3 cup fluffy coconut frosting, and top with another cake layer. Spread second layer with 2/3 cup frosting and top with the remaining cake layer. Spread the remaining frosting over the top and sides of the cake. Sprinkle top of cake with coconut.

Store cake loosely covered in refrigerator. (Serves 16.)

FLUFFY COCONUT FROSTING

1 cup sugar
1/4 cup water
1/4 tsp. cream of tartar
dash of salt
3 large egg whites
1 tsp. vanilla extract
1/4 tsp. coconut extract

Combine first 5 ingredients in top of a double boiler over barely simmering water. Beat at high speed with a hand-held mixer until stiff peaks form and candy thermometer registers 160 degrees. Add extracts and beat until blended. (Makes 4 cups.)

RED VELVET CAKE

Our test kitchen staff was divided on what kind of frosting is best on this cake. One side had memories of a cream cheese frosting, while the other insisted that cooked buttercream frosting makes it a true red velvet cake. What follows is the buttercream version, but you can substitute the cream cheese frosting (from the carrot cake recipe below) if you prefer.

cooking spray
1 Tbsp. flour
1 2/3 cups sugar
5 Tbsp. vegetable shortening
1 large egg white
1 large egg
3 Tbsp. unsweetened cocoa
30 ml. bottle red food coloring
2 1/4 cups flour
1 tsp. salt
1 cup buttermilk
1 1/4 tsp. vanilla extract
1 Tbsp. white vinegar
1 tsp. baking soda
cooked buttercream frosting (recipe below)

Preheat oven to 175°.

Coat two 23 cm. round cake pans with cooking spray and dust them with 1 Tbsp. flour.

Beat the sugar and shortening at medium speed of a mixer for 5 minutes or until well-blended. Add egg white and egg and beat well.

Combine cocoa and food coloring in a small bowl and stir well with a whisk. Add to sugar mixture and mix well.

Lightly spoon 2 1/4 cups flour into dry measuring cups and level with a knife. Combine with salt. Add flour mixture to sugar mixture alternately with buttermilk, beginning and ending with flour mixture.

Add vanilla to batter and mix well. Combine vinegar and baking soda in a small bowl and add to batter, mixing well.

Pour batter into prepared pans. Sharply tap pans once on counter to remove air bubbles. Bake at 175° for 28 minutes or until a wooden pick inserted in center comes out clean.

Cool in pans 10 minutes, remove from pans and cool completely on wire racks.

Place 1 cake layer on a plate, spread with 1 3 cup cooked buttercream frosting, and top with another cake layer. Spread the remaining frosting over the top and sides of the cake. Store cake loosely covered in refrigerator. (Serves 16.)

COOKED BUTTERCREAM FROSTING

Don't substitute margarine for the butter in this recipe. The texture and taste will not be the same.

1 cup low-fat milk
7 Tbsp. flour
12 Tbsp. butter, chilled
2 1/2 cups powdered sugar
1 tsp. vanilla extract

Cook milk and flour in a small, heavy saucepan over medium heat 2 1/2 minutes or until very thick, stirring constantly with a whisk. Spoon into a bowl, cover and chill thoroughly.

Beat butter and chilled flour mixture at medium speed of a mixer until smooth. Gradually add sugar and beat just until blended (do not overbeat). Stir in vanilla, cover and chill. (Makes 2 1/3 cups.)

GERMAN-CHOCOLATE CAKE

cooking spray
1 Tbsp. cake flour
1/2 cup unsweetened cocoa
30 gr. sweet baking chocolate
1/2 cup boiling water
1 cup sugar
3/4 cup packed brown sugar
3 Tbsp. butter or margarine, softened
2 Tbsp. vegetable oil
1/4 cup plain, low-fat yogurt
2 1/2 tsp. vanilla extract
1/2 tsp. coconut extract
2 large egg whites
2 1/4 cups sifted cake flour
2 tsp. baking powder
1/2 tsp. baking soda
1/2 tsp. salt
1 cup buttermilk
coconut-pecan frosting (recipe below)

Preheat oven to 175°.

Coat three 20 cm. round cake pans with cooking spray and dust them with 1 Tbsp. flour.

Combine cocoa and chocolate in a small bowl, add boiling water and stir until chocolate melts. Set aside.

Combine sugars, butter and oil in a large bowl and beat at medium speed of a mixer until they are well-blended (about 5 minutes). Add yogurt, extracts and egg whites and beat well.

Lightly spoon sifted flour into dry measuring cups and level with a knife. Combine sifted flour, baking powder, baking soda, and salt. Add flour mixture to creamed mixture alternately with buttermilk, beginning and ending with flour mixture. Beat in cocoa mixture.

Pour cake batter into prepared pans. Sharply tap pans once on counter to remove air bubbles. Bake at 175° for 25 minutes or until a wooden pick inserted in center comes out clean. Cool in pans 10 minutes, remove from pans, and cool completely on wire racks.

Place 1 cake layer on a plate, spread with 1/3 cup coconut-pecan frosting, and top with another cake layer. Spread second layer with 1/3 cup frosting and top with remaining cake layer. Spread remaining frosting over top and sides of cake. Store cake loosely covered in refrigerator. (Serves 18.)

COCONUT-PECAN FROSTING

2 Tbsp. butter or margarine
1/3 cup finely chopped pecans
2/3 cup packed brown sugar
2 Tbsp. cornstarch
1/4 tsp. salt
1 cup sweetened, condensed milk
1 Tbsp. corn syrup
2 large egg yolks
1/2 cup flaked, sweetened coconut, toasted
2 1/2 tsp. vanilla extract
1/8 tsp. coconut extract

Melt butter in a medium-sized saucepan over medium-high heat. Add chopped pecans and saute until the pecans are browned (about 2 1/2 minutes).

Remove mixture from heat and stir in sugar, cornstarch and salt. Add milk, syrup and egg yolks and stir well. Cook 2 minutes over medium-high heat or until thick, stirring constantly. Remove from heat, and stir in flaked coconut and extracts.

Pour mixture into a bowl, cover and chill until slightly stiff (about 15 minutes). (Makes 2 cups.)

CARROT CAKE WITH CREAM CHEESE FROSTING

cooking spray
1 Tbsp. flour
2 1/4 cups flour
2 tsp. baking powder
1 1/2 tsp. ground cinnamon
1/2 tsp. salt
1/4 tsp. baking soda
1/4 tsp. ground nutmeg
2/3 cup sugar
2/3 cup packed dark brown sugar
1/2 cup applesauce
1/3 cup vegetable oil
1/4 cup plain, low-fat yogurt
2 1/2 tsp. vanilla extract
2 large egg whites
1 large egg
2 cups finely shredded carrot
cream cheese frosting (recipe below)
1/4 cup chopped walnuts

Preheat oven to 190°.

Coat 2 20 cm. round cake pans with cooking spray and dust pans with 1 Tbsp. flour.

Lightly spoon 2 1/4 cups flour into dry measuring cups and level with a knife. Combine flour, baking powder, cinnamon, salt, baking soda and nutmeg in a medium bowl.

Combine sugar and next 7 ingredients (sugar through egg) in a large bowl and beat well at medium speed of a mixer. Add to flour mixture, stirring just until moist. Stir in carrot.

Pour cake batter into prepared pans. Sharply tap pans once on counter to remove air bubbles. Bake at 190° for 30 minutes or until a wooden pick inserted in center comes out clean. Cool in pans 10 minutes on wire racks, remove from pans and cool completely on wire racks.

Place 1 cake layer on a plate, spread with 2/3 cup cream cheese frosting, and top with other cake layer. Spread remaining frosting over top and sides of cake. Sprinkle walnuts over top of cake. Store cake loosely covered in refrigerator. (Serves 16.)

CREAM CHEESE FROSTING

2/3 cup low-fat cream cheese, chilled
1 1/4 tsp. vanilla extract
3 1/2 cups powdered sugar

Beat cream cheese and vanilla in a large bowl at medium speed of a mixer until smooth. Gradually add sugar; beat at low speed until smooth (do not overbeat). Cover and chill. (Makes 4 2/3 cups.)

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Phyllis's Tips



This is definitely the season to start eating more salads, but many consumers are confused about what to buy and how to make a good one. Remember the time when salad meant just tomatoes and cucumbers? Today there is so much to choose from; there are more different types of lettuces and greens than ever before.

Unfortunately, lettuce and greens are well-doused with insecticides, some of which are systemic and may leave residues in plant leaves. When possible, grow your own or buy organic. If you can't do so, make sure to wash all lettuces and greens very well. Discard the outer leaves since these may have more pesticide residues than the inner ones.

Soaking lettuce and greens is not recommended (unless you are having a party and dealing with large quantities), since it encourages water-soluble vitamins to dissolve right into the water you throw away. Instead, rinse greens well under running water or fill a basin with water, swish the greens around and then repeat the process once or twice with clean water.

Always buy firm-looking greens – if they are slightly limp they've been hanging around the greengrocery for too long.

If you want to keep washed lettuce ready in the refrigerator for snacking, rinse it well, let it almost totally dry on a kitchen towel or shake it out and then wrap it in a kitchen towel. Place the greens in a plastic bag and store in the refrigerator. The greens will stay fresh for about three days.

I love straight green salads made of different kinds of lettuces and maybe a scallion, grated zucchini, avocado or sprouts – anything green – garnished with some toasted sunflower or pumpkin seeds. Green salads go with almost anything and they are a wonderful source of B vitamins, minerals and fiber – provided you prepare the vegetables correctly and use them soon after purchasing.

Cut or tear?

Generations of cooks have believed that it is important to tear fresh lettuces rather than cut them to keep them from turning brown at the edges. In his book *On Food and Cooking*, Harold McGee writes that recent experiments have proved that there is an equal amount of cell destruction whether you tear or cut the lettuce.

The exception to this is sensitive leaves, like basil. They turn dark soon after chopping and are best when they are torn just before using.

For many, tearing leaves is more aesthetically pleasing since not all the leaves turn out exactly the same way.

Some of the lettuces and greens you may find are:

Romaine (*hasa aravit*): A Caesar salad couldn't be a Caesar salad without romaine lettuce – the elongated lettuce with dark green leaves.

Leaf lettuces (*hasa aduma, hasa yeruka* or *hasa mesulselet*): Characterized by its broad leaves, you can find it not only in red or green, but also with either flat or curly tipped leaves fanning out from the base. The red (almost maroon) leaf lettuce is more tender and delicate than the green. This is a good lettuce to use in mixed green salads or, if curly, for garnishes. It is very sandy and needs to be very well washed.

Arugula (*roka*): Also known as rocket, arugula is great by any name. Considered an Italian herb, you also can find it in France and the US. The leaves have a distinctive peppery and nutty flavor. Arugula adds a touch of class and a special taste to green and other salads. It also can be stir-fried with olive oil and garlic. Never buy arugula that looks wilted or limp or has yellow spots on the leaves.

Belgian endive (*endiv*): Importers started bringing Belgian endive here over the last few years. Its thin, elongated shape and smooth, sweet, whitish leaves make it good for dipping or adding a special touch to a salad. It generally is high priced.

Iceberg (*hasa americait* or *hasa agula*): The ultimate and traditional American lettuce is an easy-to-grow, hardy lettuce that has become available here over the last 10 years. Although crispy and crunchy, many find it lacking in character. It is also lower in nutrients than romaine lettuce.

Butterhead lettuce (*hasa hema*): Also known as Boston lettuce, it is distinguished by small loose heads with soft round leaves. It is buttery to the touch and taste.

Watercress (*gargir nehalim*): This is similar to arugula with its long stems and smaller leaves. Watercress also has a peppery taste similar to that of arugula. Watercress can be found at "gourmet" greengrocers. Do not buy it if leaves are yellow.

Next week: How to add color, texture and nutrients to salads.

FEEDBACK

By PHYLLIS GLAZER

On the February 26 food page, there was a recipe for tuna noodle casserole ("Yankee noodle dandy"). The recipe calls for 1 can of condensed reduced-fat cream of mushroom soup with cracked pepper and herbs. Could you tell me what local ingredients would give me the equivalent results? Also, the recipe calls for 2 cans of tuna in water but doesn't specify what size cans. It also calls for a jar of diced pimiento, but that I can do without.

Do you think you might suggest that the food editor not print recipes for which the ingredients aren't available locally. This isn't the first case of such a recipe being printed, it is just the first one I've considered making.

– Ora Winokur Hall, Tel Aviv

A can of condensed soup usually holds about 2-2 1/2 cups of soup. As a substitute for this, you could reconstitute powdered mushroom soup with half the amount of low-fat milk called for (you have to play with the amount so it won't be too salty.) As for tuna, when "a can" is mentioned, it always refers to the standard-sized can that contains 170 gr. (otherwise the recipe would say "a small can").

I still have a wonder pot and occasionally use it today with my usual recipes. I also still have a book called *The Wonders of a Wonder Pot, or Cooking in Israel Without an Oven* by Sybil Kaufman. If the reader who asked about using a wonder pot ("Feedback," February 26) would like some recipes from this book, I would be happy to oblige. My telephone number is (03) 534-1451.

What is a Dutch oven?

– Rachel Rasbash, Tel Aviv

That cookbook you have is a real classic. As you mentioned, you can bake in a wonder pot using regular cake recipes as long as you have the little metal plate that goes under it and you cook on low heat. You also can use it like a bundt pan in the oven.

A Dutch oven is simply a casserole dish, usually one with a cover.

What is the difference between a soft meringue and a hard meringue?

– Shira Ben Noon, Beersheba

A hard meringue has more sugar in it. It is formed into small edible containers (in which you can serve things like fruit) and baked at a low temperature. We mostly use soft meringues as a topping for pies, puddings and desserts like baked Alaska.

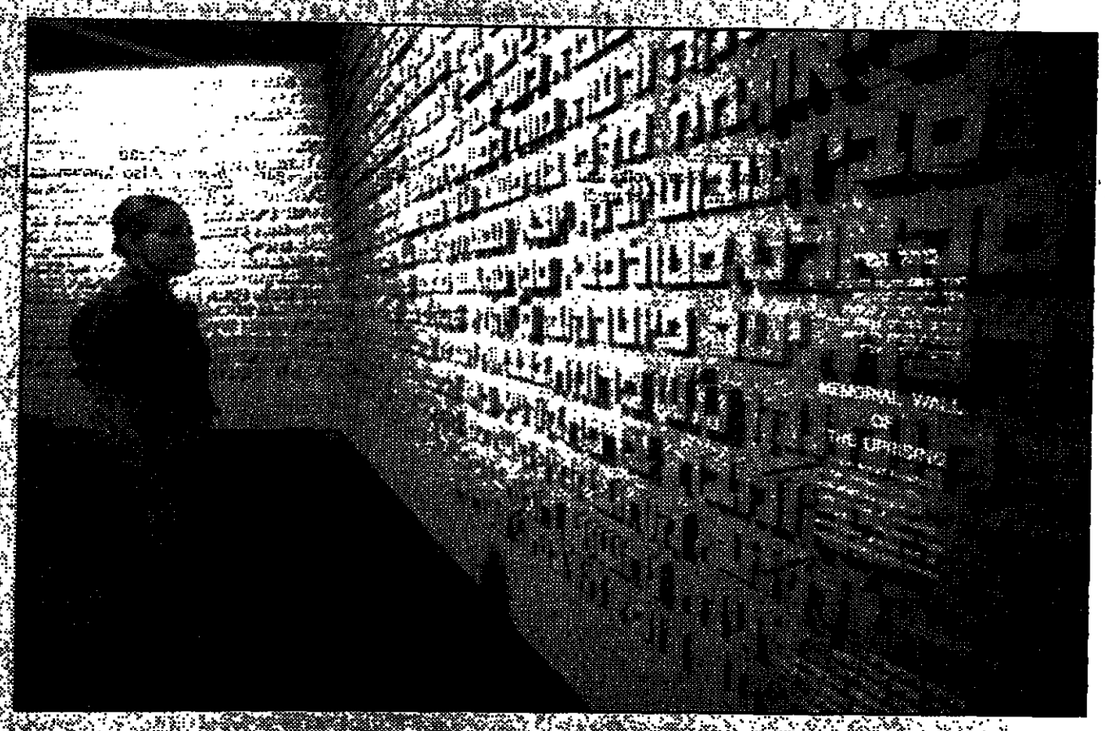
Phyllis Glazer can be contacted c/o The Jerusalem Post Magazine, P.O. Box 81, Jerusalem, 91000, or by E-mail: phyllisfood@jpost.co.il. Do not send stamped, self-addressed envelopes, as inquiries cannot be answered individually. Feedback also appears in The Jerusalem Post Magazine on Friday.

Weekender Travel



The Yad Mordechai museum is low-key, almost upbeat, in its memorial to the pre-war Jewish culture of Eastern Europe. (Photos: Debbie Hill)

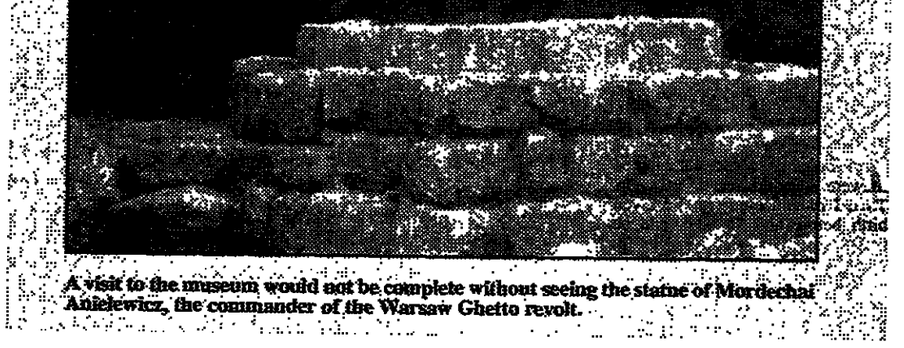
Eastern Europe comes alive at Yad Mordechai



A memorial wall lists the names of the cities where Jews fought against Nazis during World War II.



There are other attractions besides the museum. The kibbutz, which produces honey, offers visitors a first-hand look at a beekeeper taking apart a working hive.



A visit to the museum would not be complete without seeing the statue of Mordechai Anielewicz, the commander of the Warsaw Ghetto revolt.

Day Tripper

By Haim Shapiro

If you are looking for those terrible reminders of the Holocaust – the emaciated victims, the bodies piled up, or even the poignant photograph of a small boy with his hands up, don't go to the Yad Mordechai Museum.

Located in the pastoral setting of a kibbutz south of Ashkelon, the museum is low-key, almost upbeat, in its memorial to the Jewish culture of Eastern Europe that existed before the Holocaust.

While Yad Mordechai is part of Kibbutz Artzi, the most secular and left-wing of the kibbutz movements, the culture of the shtetl is represented in the exhibit by Torah scholars as well as artisans, heder classes along with Hashomer Hatzair groups.

Linda Casher, a resident kibbutznik from Baltimore who guided me through the museum, pointed out that the pioneers of Yad Mordechai were not Holocaust survivors – they had come from Poland before the war. They wanted to establish a memorial to their friends and family who had perished. But it was just as important to them to stress that Jews had organized to defend themselves and that this same spirit of self-defense motivated the members to defend their kibbutz against the Egyptian army during the War of Independence.

The award-winning building designed by architect Arye Sharon is in unfinished concrete and seems to blend into the low hill on which it stands. Its narrow windows look out on to the lush greenery of the kibbutz, providing a stark contrast to the mostly black-and-white exhibits and photographs inside.

From the windows one also sees such landmarks as the original water tower of the kibbutz, which collapsed following the fighting in 1948.

A narrow passageway leads the visitor down to an almost underground floor, where one sees the progression from the pre-war Jewish community, the rise of the Nazis to power, and the occupation.

However, even here, the museum stresses the positive: one child feeding another, underground Torah classes and theater performances, a soup kitchen organized by the Jewish community. A place of prominence is given to the few existing photographs of Jewish resistance groups. Representing the final end is one large photograph of the entrance to Auschwitz, outlined starkly against the sky.

From there, one ascends – physically as well as symbolically – to the period after the war: the survivors, the DP camps, aliya bet – the illegal immigration in the face of British restrictions – and the establishment of kibbutzim in the Negev.

In the center, visible from the ground floor and from the one above, is a relief model of the kibbutz as it existed in 1948, with the children's homes in the center.

Casher, who regularly takes visitors through the museum, said that the exhibit elicits many questions. For example, those who see the valiant defense of the kibbutz in contrast to the destruction of European Jewry ask why the Jews did not do more to fight the Nazis. Casher said the answer is evident in the exhibits, which show the large numbers of elderly people and small children.

In the Warsaw Ghetto, the resistance managed to repulse the Nazis twice, an incredible feat for a few fighters armed only with hand-made weapons, she said.

She also pointed out Abba Kovner's call to arms at the Vilna Ghetto, which specifically told those who were left that their families were dead and they had nothing to lose.

I asked her how she might have answered Yasser Arafat had he taken up the invitation to visit the Yad Mordechai Museum after the Holocaust Museum in Washington turned down his request to visit there. After all, the Yad Mordechai Museum, which shows a direct historical transition from the Holocaust to the establishment of the state, seems to reinforce the Palestinian assertion that it was they who had to suffer as a result of European persecution of Jews.

She frankly did not know what she would have said. However, Casher noted that Yad Mordechai was established on lands bought by the JNF and that until the War of Independence it had relatively good relations with its Arab neighbors. She also pointed out that it was not the kibbutz which had invited Arafat but Kibbutz Artzi secretary Avshalom Vilan. Many of the members of the kibbutz were not happy about the invitation, and it was the cause of heated discussion, she said.

Even if he had visited the museum, it is doubtful Arafat would have toured the nearby hilltop where the story of the defense of the kibbutz against the Egyptian forces is retold.

Some of the original trenches and weapons have been retained, while the Egyptian attackers are represented by silhouette figures on the hillside. A recorded narration in 19 languages tells the story of the battle in which the Egyptians invaded on the day the State of Israel was declared. The defenders held out for six days, until the Hagana command ordered them to retreat. It was six days, Casher said, during which the yishuv had time to organize its defenses farther north. The Egyptians were finally stopped at Ad Halom, just south of present-day Ashdod.

A visit to the kibbutz would not be complete without seeing the statue of Mordechai Anielewicz, the commander of the Warsaw Ghetto revolt. It is true that the statue recalls the "heroic" tradition of Soviet realism, which seems excessive to us. The pose is that of Michelangelo's *David*, with Anielewicz holding a grenade instead of a stone. Certainly Anielewicz could not have been as healthy-looking as he looks here.

The kibbutz has two other attractions unrelated to the theme of destruction and rebirth. One of its main industries is honey production. It also has a small, well-organized visitors' center devoted to the subject of bees.

As part of the presentation, the beekeeper goes out and takes apart a working hive, in full view of the visitors who are protected by a large plate glass window.

There is also a small zoo with peacocks, ostriches and a reptile house with several large snakes.

And there are several picnic tables for visitors under the shade of towering pine trees.

To reach the kibbutz, take the coastal highway south of Ashkelon toward Gaza. A sign points to Yad Mordechai. Once in the kibbutz, further signs indicate the directions to sites. All sites are open from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. daily. Admission to the museum and battle site reconstruction is NIS 12 for adults, NIS 6 for children, with the same prices for the bee exhibit. The zoo is NIS 5 for children and adults.

Weekender Leisure





(Above and below) The television of the Victorian age: Stereographs (paired images) from photo historian Danny Kyram's huge collection, which concentrates mainly on Palestine and the Middle East.

Seeing double



On Camera
By David Brauner

"Three-dimensional stereoscopic pictures were the television of the Victorian age," explains Danny Kyram, a photo historian who holds a huge collection of close to 8,000 cards. No parlor on either side of the Atlantic was complete without its stereoscope (the viewer) and a basket full of the latest "stereographs." Whole evenings were spent in fascination passing the cards around, viewing and reading the captions on the backs.

According to Kyram, some 14,000 photographers photographed approximately seven million different views worldwide. He estimates that of these, between 8,000-10,000 stereoscopic views were taken of Palestine, with an early concentration on Jerusalem.

To keep up with the rage, one company alone in the US, Underwood and Underwood, was producing 25,000 cards a day and about 100,000 stereoscopes a year at the turn of the century.

Kyram, 60, an Israeli career diplomat, says, "I started like everybody else, with an interest in photography back in the early '60s."

His interest soon embraced the art and history of photography. In 1975 he bought an old box camera for 25 cents. He now owns about 150 antique cameras.

Also in the 1970s Kyram picked up his first stereoscope, an 1861 model invented by American physician-poet Oliver Wendell Holmes (1809-1894), who was also a keen amateur photographer. The dealer asked, "Why don't you buy a couple of stereo cards to go with it?"

Kyram's collection concentrates mainly on Palestine, and the Middle East, including Syria, Jordan and Egypt, the earliest glass plate examples dating from the 1850s.

Kyram stores most of his stereo cards in their original book-form cases, which open flat like chocolate boxes, so that the cards are on edge. (Nothing seems to change. Modern video tapes are also stored in packaging designed to look like books.)

Among the rarities in the Kyram collection are cards made by US photographer Frank Good in 1874-5, and sold in Jerusalem by the infamous forger Wilhelm Moses Shapira. Shapira, who tried to sell original parchments of the Bible to the British Museum for fabulous sums, stuck his own label over Good's name in an attempt to pass off the pictures as his own work.

Another American stereo photographer, William James, accompanied Mark Twain (Samuel Clemens) on his voyage to the Holy Land in 1867. James made more money from his photography than Twain did from his writing. He took no pictures of Twain, and Twain does not mention James by name in his book *Innocents Abroad*.

Enterprising Armenian photographers actively produced images of Christian sites for pilgrims. In one fascinating example of stereoscopic art, the Armenians made tiny holes for the candle flames in their transparent cards depicting a picture of the interior of the Church of the Holy Sepulcher. When viewed against the light, the candles appear to be burning.

Kyram also owns a rare view of the St. Louis World's Fair in 1904, showing the "Zionist Jewish flag" or "Banner of Zion" flying in the foreground. His collection includes a few other curiosities like a picture that appears to depict a ghost and another very clear twin image of the full moon. A number of his cards are hand painted in delicate pastels for an early color effect.

When asked how he avoids buying duplicates with so many stereographs, Kyram smiled knowingly, then reached for a tiny spiral notebook at the front of his desk. In it he has carefully listed his entire holdings. So, for instance, Felix Bonfils (1831-85) published a catalog of his second series of Palestine of 159 views, of which Kyram has acquired 127.

The shelves of Kyram's study are lined with stereoscopes in all shapes and sizes, including one specially made for people who wear glasses (happily used by this reporter). For the kid in everyone, he owns a nostalgic "Viewmaster" binocular-style viewer for full color discs.

All stereoscopic viewers, sometimes known as stereopticons, work on the principle of cross vision to produce the optical illusion of depth. In other words, the left eye sees the right picture and vice versa. The pictures were taken with stereo cameras whose pair of lenses are about seven centimeters apart, which is the average distance between the centers of a person's two eyes.

Kyram maintains that the fascination of stereoscopy lies partly in the design of the viewers which cupped the eyes, completely isolating the viewers from their surroundings and literally placing them in the picture.

To prove his point, Kyram went to his extensive library of rare photographic books. He took down an original copy of the *Atlantic Monthly* from June, 1859. Turning to page 746, he quoted from a long and enthusiastic article on stereo photography by Oliver Wendell Holmes. "I leave my outward frame in the armchair at my table while in spirit I am looking down upon Jerusalem from the Mount of Olives."

Your photography questions and comments are welcome. Contact David Brauner, e-mail: morrir @mail.biu.ac.il (writing "for David" in the subject line) or fax (02) 563-7792 or c/o Photo Archives, The Jerusalem Post, P.O.B. 81, Jerusalem 91000.



Bridge

Jumping into the sea

By MATTHEW GRANOVETTER

West dealer
East-West vulnerable

North (Cayne)
♠K874
♥Q85
♦KQ1098
♣J

West (Goldman) ♠932 ♥J73 ♦AJ653 ♣KQ
East (Soloway) ♠J106 ♥A9 ♦2 ♣A108654 2
South (Burger) ♠AQ5 ♥K10642 ♦74 ♣973

Table 1

West	North	East	South
pass	pass	3♣	pass
3 NT	4♣	pass	4♥
pass	pass	double	(all pass)

Table 2

West	North	East	South
pass	1♦	3♣	(all pass)

Jewish tradition says that Nachshon Ben-Aminadav (the prince of the tribe of Yehuda) jumped into the Red Sea just before it split open. The North player on today's deal did something similar.

The deal was played in the final of the US Vanderbilt Teams, in Reno, Nevada last month. It's one of those deals that might go unnoticed by reporters because the result was a "push." This is the technical term for both sides scoring the same amount of points. On this deal, East-West at Table 1 scored 100 points by defeating four hearts doubled one trick. At Table 2, East-West scored 110 points for bidding and making nine tricks in clubs. Since a difference of 10 points is discounted in team scoring, the deal was a push. Nevertheless, at Table 1 it was one of the best bid hands of the year.

East-West were Bobby Goldman of Texas and Paul Soloway of Seattle; North-South were James Cayne of New York and Chuck Burger of Detroit. After two passes, Soloway (East) opened the bidding three clubs, a preemptive move. When your side is vulnerable and your opponents are not, the preempt shows a very strong, solid or semi-solid suit. So when Goldman (West) heard his partner's three-club bid and noticed that he was holding the king and queen of clubs, he realized something was peculiar. Since his partner would not make the error of opening a vulnerable three-bid with a weak suit and a weak hand, Goldman deduced that Soloway held an outside ace for his call. This deduction was taken one step further. "If my partner has an outside ace," thought Goldman, "we might have a good play for nine tricks in a notrump game."

Some players imagine things at the table but fail to follow through. Not so with Goldman, who bid three notrump over three clubs, a bid that wouldn't occur to more than one out of 100 players. This bid was right on target.

North-South can take four spade tricks against three notrump and that's all. West has seven club tricks and two aces to score 600 points. But he didn't get a chance, because Cayne (North) returned Goldman's brilliancy with a brilliancy of his own.

The deduction Cayne made was this: "My opponents are a world-class pair. One player showed seven tricks and the other bid three notrump, with two outside aces, no doubt. If I trust my opponents, they'll take nine tricks two-thirds of the time (one-third of the time my partner will have the ace of diamonds, and we'll take five tricks before they get nine). Since I have support for three suits, I'll invite partner to bid his longest suit and take a nonvulnerable sacrifice against their vulnerable game."

So Cayne "jumped into the sea" with a bid of four clubs. Burger (South) bid four hearts and this became the final contract, doubled. The defense was perfect, but the declarer was also perfect. Goldman (West) led the king of clubs. Soloway (East) overtook with his ace and led back a diamond. This diamond play, into dummy's strength, had to be a singleton, so West won the ace of diamonds and gave his partner a ruff with the nine of hearts.

Soloway led a low club at trick four to his partner's queen. This was ruffed in dummy. Now Burger led a high diamond from dummy and Soloway ruffed with the ace of trumps, as Burger discarded his last club from his hand. At this point, Burger leaned forward and claimed, saying he would finesse West's jack of hearts by leading a low heart to dummy's 8. He lost only four tricks, for what was probably the most brilliant minus 100 points in the history of the game.

Readers may contact Matthew Granovetter by email at gran@netvision.net.il

Chess

The Benoni defense

By NIGEL SHORT

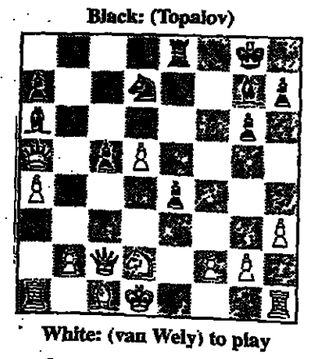
The Benoni Defense has, over the years, been championed by great fighters such as Tal, Fischer and Kasparov. However, most top players (probably including the above) tend to view the opening as suspect; if they do not exactly agree with Reuben Fine's opinion that the Benoni Defense leaves Black with a "hopelessly cramped game," they at least understand the sentiment.

Anyway, academic discussions as to the correctness of the Benoni are neither here nor there when you are in the thick of battle. One thing that is certain is that it is very difficult to prevent Black's pieces from swarming out and creating dangerous threats, as Holland's Loek van Wely here discovers to his cost.

White: van Wely
Black: Topalov
Hoogovens, 1998

1. d4 Nf6 2. c4 e6 3. Nf3 c5 4. d5 d6 5. Nc3 exd5 6. cxd5 g6 7. h3 Bg7 8. e4 0-0 9. Bd3. This is a popular set-up. It has the advantage of being easy to understand: firstly White prevents the bishop (or knight for that matter) from coming to g4 and secondly he protects his e-pawn. Black must react quickly to avoid slipping into a terrible bind. **9. ...b5!? 10. Nxb5 Re8.** Formerly the direct 10. ...Nxe4 was played until it was discovered that this was well met by 11. Bxe4 Re8 12. Ng5! intending 12. ...h6 13. Ne6! with a crushing position. **11. Nd2** repuedly 11. 0-0 Nxe4 12. Re1 gives White the advantage, but who knows? **11. ...Nxe4 12. Bxe4 Ba6! 13.a4 Qa5! 14. Nxd6 Nd7!** Very beautiful and extremely logical. Black wastes no time in activating his forces. Meanwhile White's king is trapped in a raking crossfire in the center of the board. Having said that, should there exist a way to beat off the attack, one would have to go back and replace all those exclamation marks with question marks, which would be a dreadful pity as materialism triumphs far too often in this world. **15. Qe2 f5 16. Nxe8 Rxe8 17. Kd1 fxe4**

Black: (Topalov)



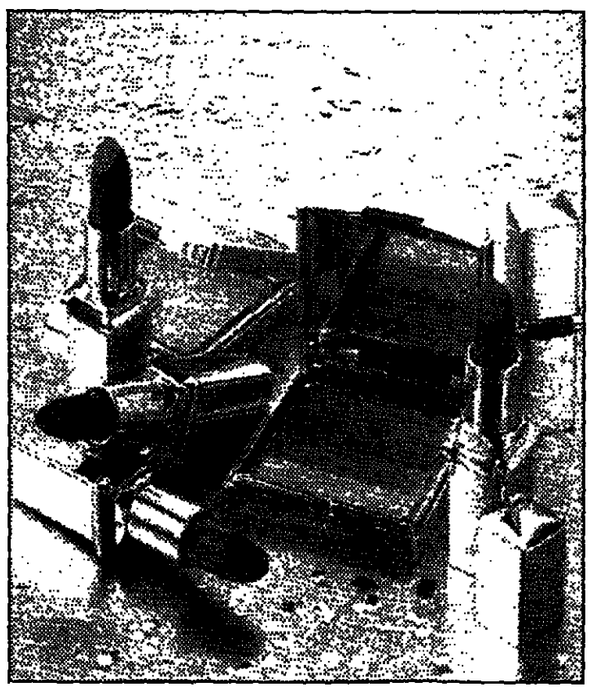
White: (van Wely) to play

Playing White, I would not wish to touch this position with a barge-pole, but I believe that van Wely probably aimed for it. The reason is, being a conscientious worker, he would know that it is assessed as being clearly advantageous to White in the authoritative *Encyclopaedia of Chess Openings* (Volume A, second edition). Topalov, obviously, begged to differ **18. Ra3** 18. Nxe4 is the most testing. Black has several ways to proceed but perhaps the best is c4. **18. ...c4 19. Re3 Qxd5 20. Rxe4 Rf8 21. f3 Nc5 22. Re7 22.** Rxc4 Nd3! 23. Rf1 Rd8 increases the pressure to breaking point **22. ...Bf6 23. Rxa7 c3 24. Rxa6.** Unsuccessfully attempting to bail out but 24. bxc3 Bc4 25. Ra5 Rd8 leaves no chance of survival. **24. ...cxd2 25. Rxf6 dxc1Q+ 26. Kxc1 Rxf6 27. Rd1 Qc6 28. Kb1 Nxa4.** Suddenly the material advantage has passed to Black. With precise play, it should be a technical win. **29. Qxc6 Rxc6 30. Rd8+ Kg7 31. Rd7+ Kh6 32. b4 Nc5 33. Rf7 Ne6 34. Ka2?** 34. g4 still offered some drawing chances. **34. ...Ra6+ 35. Kb1 Nd4 36. Rf4 Nf5 37. Re4 Rd6 38. Kc2 Ng3!** Performing a little dance to lure the white rook to a bad square. **39. Rg4 Nf1 40. Kc3 Ne3 41. Rg5 Nf5 42. Rg4 Kh5 43. b4 Ne3 44. Rd4 Rxd4 45. Kxd4 Nc2+** the same **46. ...Nxb4 47. Kf6 Nd5+ 48. Kg7 Ne3** and White resigned as he was unable to liquidate Black's last pawn.

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Flair
By Greer Fay Cashman

Go for the gold



(Above) For the glitterati: The Clarins Jewel Eye Highlights and Lipsticks are ultra chic in their golden packaging; (Right) New Age Serum by Soft Touch neither prevents nor removes wrinkles, but it does keep dryness under control.

If you've ever watched a woman freshen up her makeup in public, you know that when she pulls an expensive-looking lipstick or compact out of her cosmetic bag, she becomes the focus of attention until she completes her task.

That's one of the reasons that Clarins Jewel Eye Highlights are so attractive.

The four-shade palettes come in an elegant golden compact encased in a royal red suede-like pouch. The entire effect is ultra chic.

The compacts are jewel-coded: amethyst for cool accents, amber for warm. The cool tones run the gamut from lavender to sky blue, pearl white and light silver, while the warm accents go from earthy brown to soft beige, amber gold and creamy white. A double-sided applicator is included.

A hint for achieving good results is to apply the shadow from the outer eyelid inward to the corner of the eye, and then blend. The darkest shade should be closest to the lash line.

Also part of the collection is a line of creamy lipsticks encased in gold packaging.

Soft Touch has gone for the gold as well, but in the content rather than the container.

Precious Gold and Silver Lamé powdered Perfect Eye Shadow come in sophisticated plastic casings, which outwardly fall short of Clarins, though the products themselves are more than satisfactory.

To complement these two shadows, Soft Touch also has Gold Dust and Cocktail Silver eyeliners in soft, creamy crayons which help to give the right finishing touch to eye enhancement.

Sisley which, like Clarins, is one of the prestige trademarks of French cosmetics, has recently released a Long-Lasting Botanical Lipstick in an elegant gold-banded black case. The lipstick itself contains two percent calendula extract, which prevents dryness.

One of the most artistically functional forms of packaging is Jean Paul Gaultier's solid perfume bracelet. Based on his famous tin can container but somewhat more aesthetic, it has a cameo in the center featuring the Gaultier dressmaker dummy, beneath which there is a solid, cream-base fragrance, a smidgen of which can be applied behind the ears and on the pulses of the throat. Even when the perfume runs out, the bracelet will continue to be an eye-catcher.



Another French brand name that recently hit the Israeli market is Matis, whose representatives describe it as a new generation cosmetics company specializing in skin care, which includes a new anti-aging concept with aromatic stimulation. Matis operates in Israel in conjunction with Gigi Cosmetics.

Speaking of anti-aging, Soft Touch has come out with yet another two-in-one product in its Interact series. New Age Serum, which combines Anti-Wrinkle Serum Fluid with Lifting Hydro-Serum Gel, is both gentle and refreshing and leaves the skin feeling silky smooth.

Unfortunately, it neither prevents nor removes wrinkles. It does, however, keep dryness at bay.

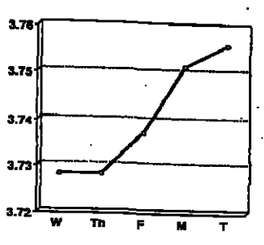
Human beings have been seeking the elixir of youth almost since the beginning of time. While there are many products which make the skin softer or more radiant, not a single cosmetics company has come up with a genuine anti-aging formula.

Whoever does is sure to surpass even Bill Gates in the money-making arena.

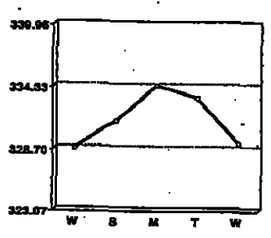
MARKETS

in brief

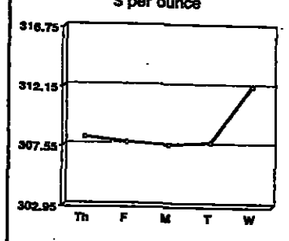
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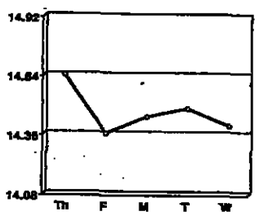
MAOF INDEX



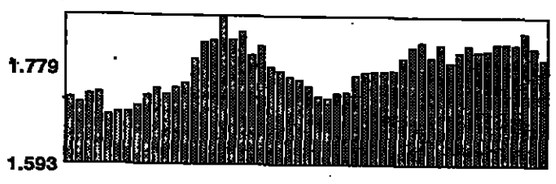
GOLD
$ per ounce



OIL
$ per barrel of brent crude

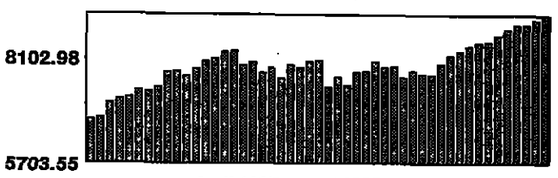


DOLLAR / DEUTSCHEMARK



April 1997 – April 1998

DOW JONES INDUST. AVG.



April 1997 – April 1998

Tadiran buys Cal. Microwave division

Tadiran, Israel's largest electronics company, said yesterday it has completed purchasing the microwave networks division of California Microwave for $31.5 million. Tadiran said that in order to finalize the deal it has established an American subsidiary, Tadiran Microwave Network. The deal, which was announced last March, was first estimated at $35m. The microwave networks division develops and manufactures radio systems for wireless microwave communication. The company produces systems for cellular phone infrastructure and had sales of $83m. in 1997. *Dan Gerstenfeld*

Consumer protection commissioner appointed

Attorney Yitzhak Kimche, 40, has been appointed consumer protection commissioner in the Industry and Trade Ministry. Minister Natan Sharansky said the appointment of an attorney to the position for the first time is key to raising the level of consumer protection in the country. *Nina Gilbert*

Tower to make $4m. expansion

Tower Semiconductor is to invest $4 million in the expansion of its Migdal Ha'emek plant in order to meet the production needs of its new products, which require more intense final inspections.

Last year, Tower decided to add specialized products such as the embedded EPROM, Mixed-Signal and Image Sensor products. The development of these products is in its final stages and in order to bring them to production, it is necessary to expand the supervision area. The 3,000 sq.m. space is due to be completed by October. In the past six months, the company has expanded the number of engineers by 11%. *Nina Gilbert*

Sun Microsystems to expand interests here

A senior executive of Sun Microsystems is to visit here next week in order to expand cooperation with high-tech and software companies developing products based on Sun's technologies.

The company has decided to expand its involvement with Israeli companies due to significant increase in the past two years in the number of Israeli companies developing innovative technologies based on Java and Solaris.

Sun has an R&D center here in Herzliya, JavaSoft, and also has some strategic partnerships with Israeli companies. At the center, work is being completed on the development of the JavaPC program which will enable the use of Java applications on computers based on the DOS operating system. *Nina Gilbert*

Galilee to offer projects worth $1b.

The Galilee Development Authority has launched a campaign to attract investors to dozens of available development projects in tourism and industry valued at $1 billion.

The authority, part of the National Infrastructure Ministry, aims to link the investors with local authorities offering the projects. *Nina Gilbert*

TARGET טרגט
(מטרה)
Mutual Fund for Foreign Residents

Date:	21.4.98
Purchase Price:	135.69
Redemption Price:	134.66

MUTUAL FUNDS LEUMI Pia

PRIME פריים
Mutual Fund for Foreign Residents

Date:	21.4.98
Purchase Price:	118.99
Redemption Price:	118.34

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Mellon Bank rejects Bank of New York takeover bid

Merger would have been largest bank takeover ever

Bank of New York Co. offered to buy Mellon Bank Corp. for $23.6 billion, or $90 a share, in the largest unsolicited bank takeover proposal ever.

Mellon said it's not for sale.

Bank of New York said it would pay 1.4 of its shares for each Mellon share. That's a 28.8 percent premium over Mellon's closing price on Tuesday of 69 7/8, up 1 7/16.

Mellon shares rose to 83 1/4 on Instinet yesterday and trading was delayed on the New York Stock Exchange.

Bank of New York said in a Securities and Exchange Commission filing that it is only interested in buying Mellon if the bank agrees to the sale.

The takeover would create a bank that gets more than 60% of its revenue from fees, rather than by lending, because its biggest businesses include keeping records for investors and processing their trades. Those stable earnings are prized by investors – and could lead to competing offers for Mellon.

The bid comes in the busiest month ever for bank takeovers and four months after merger talks between Mellon and Bank of New York collapsed. Banks are merging at a record pace to boost profits by combining businesses, selling more products and cutting costs.

This month, Travelers Group Inc. and Citicorp agreed to an $80b. merger; NationsBank Corp. and BankAmerica Corp. said they'll combine in a $65b. transaction; and Banc One Corp. agreed to buy First Chicago NBD Corp. for $30b.

Mellon said it's not in talks with Bank of New York or anyone else.

Combining the companies would create a bank with more than $100b. of assets, making it one of the 10 largest in the US. The bank, which would be renamed Mellon Bank of New York and headquartered in Pittsburgh, would be the biggest in terms of assets under custody, with $5.5 trillion, and No. 2 in assets under management with $350b. Mellon also owns the Dreyfus mutual funds, so a combination would make the company the biggest bank in the mutual fund business.

Bank of New York Chairman and Chief Executive Thomas Renyi sent a letter proposing the takeover to Mellon's board and Mellon Chairman Frank Cahouet after Cahouet on Monday rejected a meeting to discuss the transaction.

"I remain totally convinced, as I believe you do, that a combination of our two companies would make compelling business sense," Renyi said in the letter.

Bank of New York, established in 1784 by Alexander Hamilton, is one of the few to raid a US bank. It took over Irving Trust Corp. in 1988 for $1.4b., after being rebuffed for more than a year.

Hostile takeovers in banking are risky because they can disrupt businesses and cause lapses in customer service that hurt earnings. They are particularly unwelcome in Pennsylvania.

Under Pennsylvania law a board's fiduciary responsibility is to the corporation, not its shareholders. That means a Pennsylvania company isn't required to take special action in response to a bid, lawyers said. (Bloomberg)



South Koreans rally for economy

A group of South Koreans hold a rally to encourage citizens to reduce spending and deposit their savings into banks to help the country through its financial crisis. (Reuters)

Neeman, Sharansky discuss lack of R&D funding

By NINA GILBERT

Finance Minister Yaakov Neeman held talks with Industry and Trade Minister Natan Sharansky yesterday on the shortfall in funds for industrial research and development this year, and agreed to conduct a joint examination of the funding situation.

Neeman pledged to find the budgetary resources to close the gaps if the check by the Chief Scientist's Office and the Treasury confirms a shortfall.

Chief Scientist Orna Berry has estimated the R&D budget shortfall at NIS 700 million this year, while demand for the funds is to rise 36%.

The check is to look at the entire issue of royalties that are paid back into the fund and the standing commitments for R&D funding.

The budget has dropped this year by 10 percent nominally and 17% in real terms.

Berry and industrial leaders have warned that the shortfall would result in high-tech companies moving research abroad, resulting in a "brain drain" on the country.

Bank Tefahot loses millions to contractors

Globes Business News

Contractors tricked Bank Tefahot out of what is estimated to be millions of dollars by withdrawing funds from building project accounts based on false construction progress reports.

The contractors were able to do this due to Tefahot's financial coverage method, in which full sale guarantees are given before full payment is made for the apartments in a project. Bank Tefahot provides coverage for construction projects consisting of tens of thousands of apartments.

The real estate sector fears that such instances could recur and that apartment purchasers will receive their apartments well behind schedule or only will receive compensation in the amount of payments already made.

Most banks use a different method, giving only partial sale guarantees that match actual payment made for the apartments in each project. Those banks have thus been able to prevent situations of this sort. They have approved money drafts to contractors out of project accounts only on the basis of an increase in actual payments. The banks received true reports of payment increase, since customers came to the bank to increase their sale guarantee.

This kind of control cannot be effected in Bank Tefahot since sale guarantees are given in full when the first payment on the apartments is made. Control is effected by engineering inspectors, likewise based on contractors' reports.

When the deception came to light, receivers were appointed for a building project in Ra'anana and for one in Petah Tikva.

Receivers were appointed for several companies due to this problem. In some companies, only a single partner is involved in the deception, the others not having been aware of it.

"We do, in fact, issue sale guarantees in such a way that the customer, whenever he adds a payment for the apartment, need not come to the bank and ask for a new guarantee. From the outset, the customer receives the guarantee for the full price of the apartment. However, the validity of the guarantee is contingent on actual payment. The customer signs an affidavit to that effect before receiving the guarantee," Bank Tefahot commented.

Treasury: Too much public spending isn't accounted for

By DAVID HARRIS

"Too much" public money is being spent without Knesset budgetary approval, State Budget Director David Milgrom said.

Speaking in Jerusalem yesterday, Milgrom said there are many ways of spending money during the year that are not accounted for when MK's approve the annual budget.

"I am concerned by what's not in the budget rather then what is," he said.

Milgrom highlighted three examples:

- The introduction of private legislation. Very often legislation introduced by one or several MK's will necessitate additional spending. For example, the senior citizen's bill currently making its way through the Knesset calls for a 50 percent exemption from the payment of the TV license fee, the municipal rates (*arnona*) and other fees.
- The provision of public housing. Milgrom said that thousands of publicly owned apartments are rented out at highly subsidized rates "but this does not go through the sieve of the budget and the national order of priorities."
- Milgrom alleged that local authorities still are mismanaging their budgets. The municipalities have a NIS 20 billion annual turnover yet still manage to create deficits and "say to the government, 'If you want us to run essential services we need such and such sums.' It must be clear if a mayor runs up deficit he must pay with his job." Presently the Knesset Interior Committee is discussing government-proposed legislation to tighten the supervision of local authorities' spending.

Milgrom also said that the composition of the state budget could be changed to place greater emphasis on infrastructure spending, but added this must be done carefully.

"It's not easy to stand against essential services [provided by ministers] and tell them, 'We'll cut you here and there,'" he said.

He concluded his comments by calling for the continued reduction of interest rates, making him the first senior Treasury official to do so since the resignation earlier this year of ministry director-general Shmuel Slavin. Slavin said he resigned principally because he felt the present tight monetary policy was choking the economy in general and industry in particular.

After Slavin's resignation, Treasury sources suggested that Finance Minister Yaakov Neeman had issued an edict banning any public criticism of monetary policy by Treasury officials.

Economists: Foreign labor cut won't help jobless

By NINA GILBERT

The idea that reducing the number of foreign workers will create jobs for unemployed Israelis is unrealistic, economists said yesterday.

There are an estimated 100,000 illegal foreign workers in Israel, while the jobless total some 165,000. Finance Minister Yaakov Neeman is suggesting such a reduction as part of a plan to fight unemployment to be presented to the government on Sunday.

Prof. Abraham Friedman, a professor of business at Hebrew University, said unemployed Israelis are not a substitute for foreign labor. "It is very easy to say that because there is large unemployment there is a large labor supply," he said. "But most unemployed people are either incapable or unwilling to take jobs occupied by foreign workers."

Leah Ahdut, director of the Histadrut's Economic Research Institute, said the reduction of foreign workers can assist only in those areas where there is a crossover of job capabilities.

Friedman said jobs occupied by foreign workers either have low status or pay, or entail physical hardship. "In a society which emphasizes education, we can't ask people with academic degrees to take any job offered. This would amount to a betrayal," he added.

Employers would also resist the reduction of foreign labor, he predicted. "It is much easier for them to ignore labor laws with foreign workers, such as laws requiring they give vacation and pay minimum wages," he said. Thus, the employers will complain that they can't find new workers and once again the government will have to give more permits, he said.

Ahdut said there could be a possibility for employing Israelis in the building sector, but only if it could offer acceptable salaries.

Friedman said it would be impossible to start deporting large numbers of foreign workers, since this would result in international pressure.



ISRAEL ELECTRIC חברת החשמל
TENDERS

TENDER	DESCRIPTION	COST OF DOCS. incl. VAT (Non-returnable)
661001	IEC wishes to purchase four core, extruded, cross-linked, polyethylene insulated power cables, for rated voltage 0.6/1kV, 4x10 and 4x50 sq.mm. Request for technical proposal - first stage Pre-conditions: as detailed in tender. Period of agreement: Two years, with options as detailed in tender.	NIS3,217

Last date for submitting proposals: May 17, 1998, 11:00 a.m.

Correction to Tender 660849 - Transportable Buildings for Naharayim - Technical Stage
Date for site visit has been changed to May 12, 1998 (was April 21, 1998).
Last date for submitting bids has been changed to May 24, 1998 (was May 10, 1998).
All other details of the tender are unchanged.

Additional pre-conditions:
A. Participation in the tender is also subject to complying with the preliminary conditions detailed in the Tender Regulations 1993, Para. 6(a) 1, 2, 3 (i.e., registration as required by law, compliance with mandatory specifications, and the holding of the permits required by law for transactions entered into by public bodies).
B. The Israel Electric Corporation reserves the right to allow a bidder who has not provided some required relevant documents, permits, licenses, etc., to submit them within a specified time that will be set by the Corporation.

The tender documents may be obtained Sunday - Thursday, at the Market Research and Tenders Department, 11 Sderot Pal-Yam, Haifa, between 9 a.m. and 12 noon, on submitting a receipt, demonstrating payment (non-returnable) for the documents into the Corporation's account at the Postal Bank. Payment slips for making such payments are obtainable from the above, calling 04-861-5455/4. Before purchasing the tender documents, they may be perused, Sunday - Thursday, 9 a.m.-12 noon, at the above offices or at the Sales Department, 90 Rehov Yigal Allon, Tel Aviv, Ashdar Building, entrance C, 1st floor. Tel. 03-565-4679, 03-565-4641.
Bids should be submitted in a sealed envelope and placed in Tenders Box No. 1 in the Pal-Yam Building, Haifa (address as above) by the last date for submitting bids, as stated above.
No undertaking is given to accept the lowest or any bid.
NOTE. In appropriate cases, the Electric Corporation will give preference to suppliers, in accordance with the Tenders Regulations (Preference for Locally Produced Goods, and Obligation to Extend Commercial Cooperation).
The Electric Corporation reserves the right to negotiate, where this is legally permissible.

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هكذا من الأصل

TASE declines, led by banks

Tel Aviv

Stocks dropped for a second day yesterday, led by Bank Leumi and Bank Hapoalim, the country's two largest banks, after Merrill Lynch & Co. downgraded its purchase recommendations on the companies.

Bank Hapoalim, the largest bank by assets, dropped 2.6 percent to 10.4 shekels and Bank Leumi, the second-largest bank, lost 1.6 percent to 7 shekels. That pulled the Maof Index of 25 largest shares down 1.24 percent to 329.14.

Shares of Israel's largest banks have risen to records in recent weeks on expectations of improved profits after planned state-asset sales, and on buying by foreign investors. Government officials have said they want to sell control of Discount Bank and Bank Leumi this year, furthering Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu's program of selling state assets.

"We do not expect a strategic sale in 1998 [of Bank Leumi] and hence would not expect Leumi's shares to benefit from privatization expectations in the way in which Hapoalim's did during 1997," said analyst Denise Holle in lowering her recommendation to "neutral" from "accumulate."

She said she expects lending margins to shrink to 2.71 percent in 1998 from 2.79 percent in 1997. Merrill Lynch lowered its recommendation on Bank Hapoalim to "accumulate" from "buy."

Israel Discount Bank, the third-largest bank, dropped 2.5 percent to 4.26 after initially leading indexes up with a 3 percent gain.

Tuesday, Meir Jacobson, who heads the agency responsible for the state's banking assets, said the government would go ahead with the sale of Discount Bank once it finds two suitable investor groups to submit bids.

"The banks are the main movers in the market," said Ron Weisberg, an international trader at Israel Brokerage and Investments. "After the publishing of the downgrading, indexes were pushed downwards."

Europe

UK stocks were mixed as General Accident Plc, Legal & General Group Plc and Glaxo Wellcome Plc fell, offsetting gains by General Electric Co., which agreed to buy Tracor Inc. of the US for $1.4 billion. Glaxo, SmithKline Beecham Plc and other drug stocks fell on fading hopes for mergers, while insurers slid on concern profit growth is set to slow.

"There is a feeling that SmithKline isn't going to rush into a merger," said John Smith, a strategist at Henry Cooke Lumsden. An executive at SmithKline Beecham said the company wasn't interested in renewing talks with rival drugmaker Glaxo.

The benchmark FTSE 100 Index declined 23.9 points, or 0.40 percent, to 5931.1, with General Accident falling 78 pence to 1763, Legal & General dropping 39p to 685 and Glaxo Wellcome sliding 62p to 1582.

A rally in engineering stocks helped push the broader FTSE 250 up 0.49 percent to a record 5570.5, with TI Group Plc rising 7p to 549.5 and IMI Plc gaining 20.5p to 463.

Jan Leschly, SmithKline's chief executive, dismissed a return to merger talks with rival drugmaker Glaxo Wellcome Plc, *The Financial Times* reported. Still, Leschly didn't categorically rule out a revival of talks, a spokeswoman for the company said later, calling it instead "very, very unlikely." Shares in SmithKline declined 5.5p to 685.5.

"There is a review of the short-term prospects of a merger at a time drug stocks are already quite expensive," Smith said.



Maof 329.14 ▼ 1.24%
Dow Jones 9176 ▼ 0.09%
FTSE 5931.1 ▼ 0.4%
Nikkei 15761.54 ▼ 0.41%

Asia

South Korean stocks fell as signs that more companies may default on their debts knocked Cho Hung Bank and other big lenders. Stocks also fell in Japan, Asia's biggest stock market by value, and in Singapore and Malaysia, where higher interest rates and a slowing economy threatened to topple more companies.

Taiwan stocks rose as Advanced Semiconductor Engineering Inc. and other computer-related firms rallied on higher-than-expected profits. Stocks rose in Indonesia and were mixed in Hong Kong. South Korean banks reeled on a report by the Korea Institute of Finance that suggested they would need 24 trillion won ($17.1 billion) to write off bad loans and maintain enough capital to meet international standards.

"Banks are still going down hill and we don't expect any improvement for 18 months," said James 'Rooney, president of Ssangyong Templeton Investment Trust Management Co. "The bad practices that led to such a mountain of bad loans are not going away."

The benchmark Kospi index fell 7.40, or 1.68 percent to 431.81, the lowest since Jan. 9. The banking sub-index tumbled 3.67 percent to 164.6, an 11-year low, paced by Cho Hung, Commercial Bank of Korea and Korea Exchange Bank. (Bloomberg)

Wall Street

NEW YORK (AP) – Technology stocks led several market indexes to another day of record highs yesterday, but the blue-chip sector struggled again amid concerns about lofty prices and slower profit growth.

The Dow Jones industrial average edged above 9,200 for the first time after erasing an early 19-point loss, but finished 8.22 points lower at 9,176.72.

It was the third straight day that the blue-chip barometer stumbled at the open. On Tuesday, however, the Dow mounted a full recovery and rose 43 points to a record 9,184.94.

Although most popular stock measures padded Tuesday's records, the broad market was mixed, with declining issues outnumbering advancers by a small margin.

The technology-heavy Nasdaq composite index posted the biggest gain for the second straight day as leading computer-related issues rallied in advance of the profit report from Microsoft, which was due after the close. Intel, Microsoft, and Dell Computer all rose more than 3 points to lead the Nasdaq advance.

The Standard and Poor's 500-stock list rose 3.91 to 1,130.25, and the Nasdaq composite index rose 13.90 to 1,917.77, the fourth straight record close for both measures.

Mark declines as Germans damp rate-rise talk

The dollar rallied against the mark, snapping a two-day decline, after Bundesbank Vice President Johann Wilhelm Gaddum and other central banks officials damped speculation interest rates could rise soon.

Expectations a pickup in German economic activity would lead to higher interest rates sent the dollar to a three-month low of 1.781 marks in Asian trading. As Bundesbank members punctured those expectations, however, the dollar rallied to 1.7914 marks in recent trading, from 1.7887 late Tuesday.

"The move has been in the mark's favor until last night," said Jane Foley, a currency strategist at Barclays Capital. "The comments from Bundesbank officials haven't justified that move, so we've seen a correction."

The dollar fell to 130.70 yen, from 131.25 late Tuesday, knocked lower by speculation the Bank of Japan may act to keep the yen from weakening further.

The Bundesbank's Gaddum said he sees no need for higher interest rates, offsetting recent signs German growth is accelerating enough to spur the central bank to raise them.

Council member Klaus-Dieter Kuehbacher also said in an interview on German radio he sees no need to raise rates and suggested he didn't want the US currency to decline.

"Kuehbacher saying he doesn't want to see a weaker dollar has given dollar-mark a bit of a lift," said Steve Barrow, a currency strategist at Bear Stearns International. "I'd be surprised, though, if over the next four to six weeks the dollar could make any headway; it'll probably fall a little more."

Gaddum and Kuehbacher were joined by council member Reimut Jochimsen in their view that rates don't need to rise.

Reports yesterday that growth in German money supply was stronger-than-expected in March and business confidence was unchanged after falling for two months, fueled speculation German interest rates may be headed higher soon.

"The Bundesbank never shows its hand very clearly," said Peter von Maydell, a senior currency strategist at UBS Ltd. "Statements recently have very much signaled a rate hike, especially the monthly reports."

The mark had also been boosted by talk German rates will have to rise to bring them closer to higher rates elsewhere in Europe before the start of economic and monetary union on January 1.

Those perceptions, however, were undermined late Tuesday after Italy cut its benchmark overnight lending rate by half a percentage point to 5.0%, bringing it closer to Germany's 3.3% rate.

Traders were reluctant to buy dollars against the yen, anticipating the Bank of Japan may sell dollars on Friday when the government releases details of its economy-boosting package.

"The Bank of Japan will have no choice but to support the yen on Friday because the government's package likely won't satisfy the market at all," said Hiroshi Sakuma, a manager for foreign exchange at Barclays Bank Plc.

The Bank of Japan sold as much as $22 billion on April 9 and 10, after Prime Minister Ryutaro Hashimoto first announced the economy-boosting plan, trying to ensure the yen rose and avoid the appearance of a negative market verdict. (Bloomberg)



Dollar 3.756 ▲ 0.13%
Basket 4.0265 ▲ 0.15%
Mark 2.0964 ▲ 0.16%
Sterling 6.2981 ▼ 0.02%

Russian export delays drive Palladium up

Precious metals

Palladium rose to a record as Russian export delays drove one-month borrowing rates for the metal to their highest this year. Borrowing rates, known as lease rates, have risen to more than 200 percent for one month, compared with 43% two weeks ago and 10% five weeks ago.

Russia, which normally provides two-thirds of world palladium supply, hasn't shipped any palladium or platinum this year because of government delays in issuing export licenses. Palladium for immediate delivery rose $32.50 to $370.50 an ounce.

Copper surged to a five-month high in London as rising economic growth across Europe increased consumption of copper products, such as pipes and wire, reducing exchange-registered stockpiles.

Copper stockpiles in the London Metal Exchange-registered warehouses fell 7,125 metric tons to 287,000 tons. Copper for three-month delivery rose $23 to $1,890 a metric ton on LME.

Zinc rose amid buoyant European demand and expectations of lower Chinese exports of the metal this year. Zinc stockpiles in warehouses monitored by the London Metal Exchange fell 925 tons to 464,975 tons Tuesday, reflecting strong European demand for the metal, analysts said.

Exports of zinc from China, the world's largest producer, are falling. China shipped 27% less refined metal and zinc alloy in the first two months of 1998, according to Chinese customs figures. Zinc for three-month delivery rose $14 to $1,129 a metric on LME.



Gold $312.45 ▲ 2.2%
Crude Oil $14.45 ▼ 0.05%
CRB 227.8 ▲ 0.57%

Others

Coffee fell amid expectations for a bumper coffee harvest in Brazil, the largest grower, in 1998-99. Tristao, a Vitoria, Brazil-based coffee trading company, has forecast a Brazilian harvest of 36.5 million 60-kilogram bags this year, London-based traders said.

Estimates for Brazil's crop range between 30.6 million and 37.5 million bags. A crop that large is likely to keep roasters well supplied with arabica beans in the second half of 1998 and could weigh on prices, analysts say.

Coffee for July delivery fell $10 to $1,915 a ton on the London International Financial Futures and Options Exchange. (Bloomberg)

US bonds little changed as GM sells $1.6b. in debt

General Motors Corp. sold $1.6 billion of bonds and other companies lined up to sell at least $4 billion more, while long-term Treasury yields were little changed, hovering below 6 percent for a sixth week.

With borrowing rates low and demand robust, companies are rushing to tap the corporate bond market. GTE Corp. and Level 3 Communications Inc. each planed sales of $1.5 billion yesterday — after Ford Motor Credit Co. and Computer Associates International Inc. led sales of almost $6 billion Tuesday.

"There are huge corporate issues coming left and right," said Andrew Brenner, head of global fixed-income trading at Fimat USA Inc., who sees 30-year bond yields rising to 6.02 percent by Friday. "The market is under pressure."

The benchmark 30-year Treasury bond rose 1/32, or 31 cents per $1,000 bond, nudging its yield down 1 basis point to 5.94%. The two-year note's yield was unchanged at 5.58%.

Wall Street firms arranging company debt sales often sell Treasuries to protect against losses in case interest rates rise before the sales are complete. Some investors also sell government securities to make room for new corporate debt.



US 30 -yearT-bill yield
5.94 ▼ 0.01

GM boosted its sale by $100 million to $1.6 billion. It sold $500 million of 6.25 percent seven-year notes priced to yield 6.301%, or 58 basis points more than Treasuries; $500 million of 6.375% 10-year bonds priced to yield 6.441%, or 77 basis points more than government debt; and $600 million of 6.75% 30-year bonds priced to yield 6.836%, or 89 basis points more than Treasuries.

Scott Graham, co-head of government bond trading at Prudential Securities Inc., said 30-year Treasury yields may rise to 6.10% in coming days as investors see little reason to buy without clear signs the economy is slowing enough to keep inflation at bay.

Few economic reports are scheduled until next week, when the quarterly employment cost index and a first look at first-quarter growth are due.

Investors this afternoon will turn their attention to remarks from Kansas City Federal Reserve Bank President Thomas Hoenig, who is addressing a Fed Correspondents Association luncheon in New York. (Bloomberg)

LONDON

	LAST	CHANGE
Allied Domecq	618	-2
BAT Inds	585	-12.5
BT	648.5	-5.5
BTR	200.5	-2.25
Barclays	1795	+13
Bass	1113	-3
Boots	928	+1.5
British Airways	629	+9.5
Cable & Wire	-	-
Comm Union plc	1160	-11
Diageo	690	+13.5
General Electric	478	+20.75
Glaxo	1582	-62
Halifax	837	+12
HSBC (75p shs)	1885	-2
ICI	1085	-15
Land Securities	1053	-17
Lloyds Bank	1001	+14
Marks & Spencer	567.5	-0.5
NatWest Bank	1191	+31
Prudential	842	-22.5
Reuters	634	-4
Sainsbury	478	-8.25
Shell Transport	442	-0.5
Unilever	619.5	-8.5
Zeneca	2471	-51

PARIS

	LAST	CHANGE
Accor	1590	+35
Air Liquide	1112	-13
Alcatel Alsthom	1110	-5
Euro Disney	9.8	-0.2
Michelin B	376.4	-5.6
Moulinex	184.8	+10.9
Paribas	644	-5
Pernod Ricard	411.5	+0
Peugeot	1003	-24
Saint Gobain	977	-23

	LAST	CHANGE
Telef De Espana	127.625	+1.625
Temple Inland	64.5	-1.0625
Tenneco	47.0625	+1.125
Tenet Health	38	+0
Teradyne	39.6875	+2.0625
Tesoro Pet	19.9375	+0.25
Texaco	82	-1
Texas Instruments	64	+1
Texas Utilities	40.8125	+0.375
Textron	80.4375	+1.4375
Thiokol	52.875	+0.8125
Thomas & Betts	59.25	-0.75
ThreeCom	35.0625	+0
Time Warner	77.25	-0.6875
Times-Mirror	80.0625	-0.1875
Timken	36.0625	+0.875
Torchmark	48.6875	-0.4375
Tosco Corp	35	+0.6875
Toys R Us	28.75	-0.375
Transamerica	116.438	+0.9125
Transco Energy	69.4375	+0.0625
Travellers Grp	65.25	+0.25
Tribune	67.625	-0.375
Triton Energy	39.625	-0.1875
TWA	10.4375	-0.0625
Tyco Labs	56.5625	+0.4375
Tyler	10.3125	-0.625
UAL Corp	90.625	-0.875
USG Corp	55.8125	-0.8125
UST Inc	30	+0.0625
USX Marathon	37.125	-0.9375
USX-US Steel	39.25	-0.8125
Ultramar Diam	24.25	-0.625
Unicom Corp	34.375	+0.5
Unilever PLC	41.75	-0.25
Unilever NV	73.8125	-1.4375
Union Camp	51.25	-1.0625
Union Carbide	50.9375	-0.3125
Union Pacific	56.125	+1
Unisys Corp	22.875	+0.5
USAIR Group	78.375	-1.125
USF&G Corp	24.25	-0.0625
US Home	47.25	-0.3125
US Surgical	30.125	-0.1875
US Trust	72.5	+1.5
US West	52.8125	+1.4375
United Tech	97.5	-0.375
Unocal Corp	41.25	-0.375
VF Corp	50.5625	-0.1875
Valero Energy	34.3125	-0.25
Varian Assoc	51.9375	-0.8125
Viacom Inc	54.875	+1.0625
Vishay	19.8125	+0.4375
Vulcan Materials	118	+1.4375
Wachovia	88.75	+1.9375
Walgreen	34.6875	-0.3125
Wal-Mart Stores	52.3125	+0
Warner-Lambert	189.25	+8.1875
Wash Gas Light	27.125	-0.25
Washington Mutu	72.5	+2.75
Washington Post	530	-2.0625
Waste Mgmnt Inc	33.1875	-0.3125
Watkins-Johnson	27.625	+0.0625
Wells Markets	36.0625	+0.1875
Wells Fargo	380.125	+5.125
Wendy's Intl	23.1875	+0.375
Westvaco	31.125	-0.75
Weyerhaeuser	60	-1.25
Whirlpool	71.75	-0.25
Whitman	21.0625	+0
Williams Co	32.375	-0.125
Winn Dixie Stos	40.6875	+0.375
Woolworth	24.6875	+0.375
World Comm	43.625	+0
Worthington Ind	18.0625	-0.0625
Wrigley	81.0625	+0.25
Xerox	109.5	-2
Yellow Freight	19.75	-0.25
Zenith Electron	4.0625	-0.25
Zero Co	31.6875	-0.5

FRANKFURT

	LAST	CHANGE
Bayer	80	-1.8
Daimler-Benz	182.8	-0.95
Lufthansa	41.4	+0
Mannesmann	1443	+15
Metallgesellschaft	39.2	+0.5
Volkswagen	1435	+15

SOURCE: S&P COMSTOCK (DATE 23-APR-98)

FOREIGN EXCHANGE RATES

	Last	Change
Sel (Basket) (1)	4.0265	0
U.S. Dollar (1)	3.756	0
British Pound (1)	6.2981	0
Deutsch Mark (1)	2.0964	0
French Franc (1)	0.6253	0
Japanese Yen (100)	2.873	0
Swiss Franc (1)	2.5261	0
Canadian Dollar (1)	2.6228	0
Italian Lira (1000)	2.1204	0
Jordanian Dinar (1)	5.2772	0

NEW YORK MARKET INDEXES

	Last	Change
DJ Industrials	9176.72	-8.22
DJ Transport	3681.57	-3.34
DJ Utils	285.22	-2.29
DJ Comp	2954.8	-5.81
NYSE Industr	720.03	-0.83
NYSE Transport	530.86	-1.15
NYSE Comp	585.62	-0.82
S&P 100	546.73	-2.78
S&P Spot Index	1130.48	+4.14

OTHER MARKET INDEXES

	Last	Change
FTSE 100	5931.1	-23.9
Tokyo Nikkei	15761.5	-64.1
Singapore all-share Index	379.08	-7.3
Hong Kong Hang Seng Index	10977.4	+82
Israel Index	240.28	-0.26
Paris CAC 40	3835.07	-25.33
DAX	5388.94	-53.06
Madrid	906.13	-5.44
Swiss Market Index	7208.8	-50.2
Sydney	2856.8	-9.6
Milan	1579.53	-18.4

DOLLAR CROSSRATES (US)

	Last	Change
Pound: spot	1.6719	-0.0052
Jun.future (CME)	1.6678	-0.0026
D-mark: spot	1.795	-0.0045
Jun.future (CME)	0.5597	-0.0014
S-franc: spot	1.486	-0.0115
Jun.future (CME)	0.6782	-0.0018
Yen: spot	130.39	-1.73
Jun.future (CME)	0.007729	+6e-005
CanDlr: spot	1.4318	+0.0041
Jun.future (CME)	0.6986	-0.0009
AusDlr: spot	0.6518	+0.0054
Jun.future (CME)	0.6523	-0.0007
F-franc: spot	6.015	-0.0205
It Lira: spot	1773.95	-7.55
Nlg: spot	2.0203	-0.0067
AuSchg: spot	12.8156	+0.029
Rand: spot	5.045	+0.005
ECU: spot	1.1029	+0.0017

US COMMODITIES

	Last	Change
Cocoa (May) (CEC)	1672	-18
Coffee (May) (CEC)	148	+0.2
Wheat (May) (CBOT)	295.5	-5
Soybean (May) (CBOT)	640.75	-10
Sugar (May) (CEC)	9.19	+0.04
Orange juice (May)(CEC)	92.7	+0.4
Bonds Jun.future	120.125	-0.0625
S and P Jun.future	1136.1	+0.7

LONDON COMMODITIES

	Last	Change
Cocoa (May) (LCE)	1061	+0
Coffee (May) (LCE)	1978	-14
Brent crude oil (May)(IPE)	-	-

SPOT MARKET METALS (US)

	Last	Change
Silver: spot	6.3	+0.05

NEW YORK METAL FUTURES

	Last	Change
Gold (Apr)	313.6	-2.4
Silver (May)	6.263	-0.03
Platinum (Apr)	426.7	+3.8
Palladium (Jun)	308.55	+12
High-grade copper (May)	0.8485	+0.007

LONDON METAL FIXES

	Last	Change
Gold AM fix	311.2	+4
Gold PM fix	312.8	+5.3
Silver fix	631	+8

Month in parentheses signals contract exp. date
(Spot market listings are from approximately 23:30 Israel time. All others are closing quotes.)

SOURCE: S&P COMSTOCK (DATE 23-APR-98)

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- Money management
- Corporate finance

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E-Mail : meiras@trendline.co.il
Contact : Elan Levi

ISRAEL MONEY MARKETS

Patah (foreign currency deposit rates) (20.4.98)

Currency (deposit for:)	3 MONTHS	6 MONTHS	12 MONTHS
U.S. dollar ($250,000)	4.770	4.800	5.090
Pound sterling (£100,000)	5.550	5.540	5.620
German mark (DM 200,000)	2.180	2.280	2.700
Swiss franc (SF 200,000)	0.060	0.190	0.560
Yen (10 million yen)	—	—	—

(Rates vary higher or lower than indicated according to deposit)

Shekel Foreign Exchange Rates* (22.4.98)

	CHECKS AND TRANSFERS Buy	CHECKS AND TRANSFERS Sell	BANKNOTES Buy	BANKNOTES Sell	Rep. Rates**
Currency basket	3.99835	4.0580	—	—	4.0205
U.S. dollar	3.7274	3.7876	3.66	3.85	3.7510
German mark	2.0774	2.1110	2.04	2.15	2.0930
Pound sterling	6.2299	6.3304	6.12	6.42	6.2991
French franc	0.6196	0.6296	0.60	0.64	0.6242
Japanese yen (100)	2.8542	2.9003	2.80	2.95	2.8566
Dutch florin	1.8447	1.8745	1.81	1.91	1.8588
Swiss franc	2.5059	2.5464	2.46	2.59	2.5171
Swedish krona	0.4855	0.4934	0.47	0.51	0.4892
Norwegian krone	0.5006	0.5087	0.49	0.52	0.5048
Danish krone	0.5443	0.5536	0.53	0.57	0.5490
Finnish mark	0.6848	0.6959	0.67	0.71	0.6896
Canadian dollar	2.6051	2.6472	2.56	2.69	2.6221
Australian dollar	2.4275	2.4667	2.38	2.51	2.4376
S. African rand	0.7386	0.7506	0.67	0.76	0.7436
Belgian franc (10)	1.0066	1.0229	0.98	1.04	1.0138
Austrian schilling (10)	2.9528	3.0005	2.90	3.05	2.9745
Italian lira (1000)	2.1007	2.1346	2.06	2.17	2.1163
Jordanian dinar	5.2389	5.3234	5.17	5.52	5.2702
Egyptian pound	1.0600	1.1500	1.06	1.15	1.1253
ECU	4.1095	4.1758	—	—	4.1439
Irish punt	5.2348	5.3193	5.14	5.40	5.2758
Spanish peseta (100)	2.4442	2.4837	2.40	2.52	2.4635

*These rates vary according to bank. **Bank of Israel.

SOURCE: BANK LEUMI

GENERAL ASSISTANCE

EMERGENCY PHARMACIES

Jerusalem: Center Pharm, 20 Yad Harutzim, 673-1475; Balsam, Salah e-Din, 627-2315; Shualat, Shualat Road, 581-0108; Dar Aldawa, Herod's Gate, 628-2058.

Tel Aviv: Superpharm Ministore, 4 Shaul Hamelech, 696-0106; Maccabi, 2 Ballour, 829-9856. Till 1 a.m. Friday: Jabotinsky, 125 Ibn Gvirol, 546-2040. Till midnight: Superpharm Ramat Aviv, 40 Einstein, 641-3730; Superpharm London Ministore, 4 Shaul Hamelech, 696-0115.

Ra'anana-Kfar Sava: Bar Ilan, 29 Bar Ilan, Ra'anana, 744-3579.

Netanya: Netanya, 11 Herzl, 882-2842.

Haifa: Hadas, 53 Horev, 826-2673. Krayot area: Hayesod, 73 Keren Hayesod, Kiryat Bialik, 870-4185.

Herzliya: New Pharm, Beit Merkazim, 6 Maskit (cnr. Sderot Hagalim), Herzliya Pituah, 955-8472, 955-8407. Open 9 a.m. to midnight.

Upper Nazareth: New Pharm, Lev Ha'ir Mall, 657-0468. Open 9 a.m. to 10 p.m.

DUTY HOSPITALS

Jerusalem: Shaare Zedek (obstetrics, surgery, orthopedics); Hadassah Ein Kerem (ophthalmology, pediatrics); Bikur Holim (internal, ENT).

Tel Aviv: Tel Aviv Medical Center Dana Pediatric Hospital (pediatrics); Tel Aviv Medical Center (surgery).

Netanya: Laniado.

POLICE	100
FIRE	102
FIRST AID	101

Magen David Adom
In emergencies dial 101 in most parts of the country. In addition:

Ashdod* 8551333	Kfar Sava* 9902222
Ashkelon 6551332	Netanya* 9912333
Beersheba* 6274767	Netanya* 8604444
Bet Shemesh 9523133	Petah Tikva* 9311111
Dan Region* 5793333	Renovot* 9451333
Eilat* 6332444	Rishon* 9642333
Haifa* 8512233	Safed 6920333
Jerusalem* 5523133	Tel Aviv* 5460111
Karmiel* 9985444	Tiberias* 6792444

* Mobile Intensive Care Unit (MICU) service in the area, around the clock.

Help line for English-speakers – Confidential hot-line counseling and referrals for all ages, all problems. MiLev Center for Crisis Counseling. (02) 654-1111, 1-800-654-111.

Medical help for tourists (in English) 177-022-9110.

The National Poison Control Center at Rambam Hospital 04-852-9205, 24 hours a day, for information in case of poisoning.

Eran – Emotional First Aid – 1201, also Jerusalem 561-0303, Tel Aviv 546-1111 (children/youth 546-0739), Rishon Lezion 956-6661/2, Haifa 867-2222, Beersheba 649-4333, Netanya 862-5110, Karmiel 988-8770, Kfar Sava 767-4555, Hadera 634-6789.

Crisis Center for Religious Women 02-655-5744/5. 24-hour service, confidentiality guaranteed.

Wizo hotlines for battered women 02-651-4111, 03-546-1133, 07-637-6310, 08-855-0508.

Rape Crisis Center (24 hours). Tel Aviv 523-4819, 544-9191 (men), Jerusalem 625-5558, Haifa 853-0533, Eilat 633-1977.

Hadassah Medical Organization – Israel Cancer Association support service, 02-624-7676.

Flight arrivals – for information in English 03-972-3344.

WHERE TO GO

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HADASSAH. Visit the Hadassah installations, Chagall Windows. Tel. (02) 641-6333, (02) 677-6271.

TEL AVIV

Museums

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SPORTS

in brief

Rivers named FIBA player of the year

BARCELONA (Reuters) – American David Rivers became the first non-European to be named FIBA player of the year on yesterday, Rivers, who has played his best basketball in Europe, inspired Greek side Olympiakos to the Final Four title in Rome in 1997.

Dusan Ivkovic, the man in charge of the winning Olympiakos side, was named coach of the year by the sport's governing body.

Paes top seed for Jerusalem tourney

Leander Paes will be the top seed for the $50,000 Jerusalem Eisenberg Open tennis tournament starting on May 4.

Paes, 111 in the ATP rankings, will be making his fourth visit to Jerusalem and will team up with his venerable partner Mahesh Bhupathi in the doubles tournament.

Eyal Erlich (176), Eyal Ran (215) and Noam Behr (245) are the Israelis assured of direct entry into the main draw while additional local players are likely to be accorded wild card status.

Players from 15 countries, including Germany, Australia, Italy, South Africa and Japan will participate in the tournament, which runs through to May 9.

Play will begin each day at 13:00 at the Israel Tennis Center in Jerusalem's Katamon neighborhood. The semi-finals and final on Friday and Saturday respectively will start at 11:00. *Heather Chait*

Caesarea golf

The individual stableford competition at the Caesarea Golf Club was divided into three sections with an in-form Clive Josset winning Section A. His 37 stableford points were equal to Mati Geri's score but Josset had the better back nine. Elad Hasson, a junior, was third with 36.

In the B division, Gila Ariel had the score of the day, a seven under par 43 points. Yehuda Zilberbuch was second with 37 and Eli Hasson, Elad's grandfather, was third with 36 points.

Rena Levy won the C division with 37, Shlomo Ferman was second with 33 and Malca Geri third with 32.

After six rounds of the national Coca-Cola league, Kfar Shmaryahu leads with 29 points, Kfar Sava is second with 27.5 and Tel Aviv trails on eight points. *Heather Chait*

Norman out for season after shoulder surgery

VAIL, Colo. (AP) – Greg Norman will miss the next three major championships this year and the rest of the American PGA Tour season after undergoing arthroscopic surgery on his left shoulder yesterday.

The 43-year-old Australian, who has missed only five majors since 1980, withdrew from The Players Championship in late March because of shoulder pain and then missed the cut two weeks later at the US Masters.

Wright says he wants to stay at Arsenal

LONDON (Reuters) – Veteran striker Ian Wright said on Tuesday he wanted to see out the remaining two years of his contract at English league leaders Arsenal.

"I love Arsenal, I want to stay with them and I want to win back my first team place," said the north London club's 34-year-old all-time top scorer.

Wright, who has suffered groin, knee and hamstring injuries in the last three months, has not played a full first team match since January.

Wright has been linked this season to Portuguese club Benfica and English sides but he said he had been encouraged by the strong performances of other Arsenal veterans such as Steve Bould and Nigel Winterburn as well as the prospect of Europe.

Jazz, Rockets familiar foes in playoffs

NEW YORK (AP) – It's springtime, which means the Utah Jazz and Houston Rockets are getting reacquainted in the NBA playoffs.

This time, the teams get together early, in a first-round Western Conference series that begins today. Usually, they save their battles for later in the playoffs, but the Rockets had a rough season and were the lowest qualifier in the West.

Utah had the conference's best record.

"They've had their troubles this year, and we've done well against them, but you just need to look at that roster and you'll see they're a very good team," Utah coach Jerry Sloan said. "They've got the players to contend for a championship." Several of those players – Hakeem Olajuwon, Clyde Drexler, Mario Elie – know what it takes to win a title. The Rockets are the only team other than the Chicago Bulls to win an National Basketball Association crown since 1991.

But the Rockets have been ravaged by injuries and indifferent performances all season. While the Jazz finished with the league's best mark (along with the Bulls at 62-20), Houston lost nine of its last 13 games and hasn't beaten a team with a winning record since March 25.

"They were the champions just a couple of seasons ago, and that (aura) isn't something that you lose," Jazz guard Jeff Hornacek said. "We had a really good regular season, but everything starts over right now. We knocked Houston out last year, so they've got even more incentive to come after us this year."

Also today, it's San Antonio at Phoenix, Atlanta at Charlotte and Cleveland at Indiana. Tomorrow, it's New Jersey at Chicago, New York at Miami, Minnesota at Seattle and Portland at the Los Angeles Lakers.

There have been several run-ins during the postseason matchups of the Jazz and Rockets, who are playing for the fourth time in five playoffs.

Olajuwon decked Jazz center Billy Paultz with a punch in 1985. The Rockets beat the Jazz on the way to both of their NBA titles, and last year Charles Barkley sparked controversy by admitting he was trying to injure John Stockton while setting a pick.

Olajuwon, Barkley and Brent Price sat out the Rockets' final regular-season game hoping to be fit for Game 1 of the playoffs.

Only Barkley remains uncertain with a hernia that will require surgery after the season.

"I think we're a tough matchup for them no matter who's in our lineup," Rockets coach Rudy Tomjanovich said. "I know they're tough for us." Added Houston forward Eddie Johnson, "This wasn't a good regular season for us. We need to forget about the regular season and start playing like we're capable of." Meanwhile, Atlanta swept four games from Charlotte this season. Was that a ploy by the Hornets? "We've lulled them to sleep. They've got to be overconfident," Charlotte coach Dave Cowens joked. "We've got them right where we want them."

Capitals, Bruins bounce back to revisit NHL playoffs

NEW YORK (AP) – The Washington Capitals won a tough down-to-the-wire battle just to get one extra game at home in the first round of the Stanley Cup playoffs.

Now they'll find out if the struggle was worth it as they play host to the Boston Bruins in the opener of their Eastern Conference series which began in the early hours of this morning.

The Capitals and Bruins, both back in the playoffs after missing last season, will compete in one of six games on the first night of the Stanley Cup tournament.

The winner will hoist the Cup sometime in June following four best-of-7 series, meaning that a team could play 28 games to win hockey's most coveted prize.

"There isn't much of a difference in the talent level of a lot of these teams," Capitals general manager George McPhee said. "The difference really is chemistry and character." In other first-round games Wednesday, it's Buffalo at Philadelphia and Ottawa at New Jersey in the East, and Phoenix at Detroit, San Jose at Dallas and Edmonton at Colorado in the West. On Thursday, Los Angeles plays at St. Louis in the West and Montreal at Pittsburgh in the East.

There wasn't much to separate the Capitals from the Bruins this season. Washington finished just one point ahead of Boston at the end of a mad scramble for playoff position in the season's final days. The Capitals won their last four games to secure home ice.

Both teams have rebounded from sour seasons last year. The Capitals finished out of the playoffs for the first time in 15 years and the Bruins for the first time in 30.

Both restructured from the top down. The Capitals fired coach Jim Schoenfeld and GM David Poile and replaced them with Ron Wilson and McPhee. The Bruins fired coach Steve Kasper and replaced him with Pat Burns.

"It's maybe like a football team that made the playoffs every year, but never got a high draft pick and just kind of stayed a mediocre team," defenseman Mark Tinordi said.

"So once we lost, a whole bunch of changes, a whole bunch of new guys and it's kind of like we're going fresh now. The new management came in with a whole new philosophy and opened things up for us." The Capitals had a 33-40-9 record last season, but finished at 40-30-12 this season behind the goaltending of Olaf Kolzig and Peter Bondra's 52-goal season.

The Bruins, meanwhile, had the worst record in the North American National Hockey League at 26-47-9 last season. This year, the Bruins were 30 points better with a 39-30-13 record, sparked by such players as goalie Byron Dafoe, forward Dmitri Khristich and a youth movement including Jason Allison and Sergei Samsonov.

Kent, Worcs clinch tight opening victories

LONDON (Reuters) – Kent and Worcestershire, second and third respectively in last year's English county championship, raced to exciting last over-victories in the opening round of this season's campaign on Tuesday.

Collusion between the captains after rain substantially reduced playing time at Canterbury left Kent needing 252 in 60 overs to beat Middlesex.

Alan Wells got them on the right track with 77 and England one-day specialist Matthew Fleming's unbeaten 40 finished Middlesex off with just a few balls to spare and four wickets in hand.

Worcestershire had to score at eight an over to beat Essex and reached their target of 122 two balls from the close. Graeme Hick and Vikram Solanki set the tone by taking 19 off the opening over.Earlier, Essex's Australian Stuart Law held them up by making 87.

Yorkshire did not need long to wrap up victory over Somerset on the final morning at Headingley. After the visitors had been reduced to 46 for 5 overnight, Craig White took four of the remaining five wickets.

The weather ruined an intriguing game between Warwickshire, who are fancied to win the championship under new captain Brian Lara, and Durham, who have never finished higher than 16th.

Durham were reduced to 90 for 5, chasing 219 for victory before rain ended proceedings.

Surrey and Northamptonshire failed to contrive a result at the Oval, despite Alistair Brown smashing a century off 72 balls for the home team.

Derbyshire, one of three counties to win matches on Monday, lead the fledgling table with 24 points, one ahead of Yorkshire and Worcestershire.

Israel rugby squad heads for Belgrade

JOEL GORDIN

The national rugby squad leaves for Belgrade today to play Yugoslavia on Saturday, in its second game of the "silver cup" competition organized by the French-based Federation International de Rugby Amateur (FIRA).

The FIRA competitions are contested by countries where rugby is not a major sport. In the "silver cup" Israel is matched against Switzerland, Yugoslavia, Latvia and Lithuania. Each team will play each other only once.

In the first game, Israel were beaten 34-3 by Switzerland at Wingate Institute last month.

They hope to improve their performance against the Yugoslavia who also also lost to the Swiss (29-3). In the other game played so far, Lithuania beat Latvia 25-23.

Israel are scheduled to meet Lithuania and Latvia at the end of May and the beginning of June. Both games will be away.

The Israelis will again be led by veteran Ra'anana hooker Pablo Rios who made his debut in national colors in 1989.

Those squad to face Yugoslavia:

Backs: Evgeny Zaharov, Ofir Ankora, Sean Kantor (Ra'anana), Darren Pincus, Dion Carreira, Robin Beck (Hapoel Netanya), Alexander Brodsky, Larry Gordon (ASA Tel Aviv), Ariel Cabral, Pablo Cabral (Beersheba).

Forwards : Guy Dotan, Avital Eliasov, Adam Levitt (Hapoel Netanya), Pablo Rios (Ra'anana), Damian Visotsky, Marcello Hautman, Sagi Silverman, (ASA Jerusalem), Alexander Tkachenko, Philippe Leost, Itzhak Azriel, Nark Goldin (ASA Tel Aviv), Amir Lamdan (Rishon Lezion).

The coaches are Jeremy Schnuder and Chaim Peer.

IOC bans Olympic Internet vision

SYDNEY (AP) – The International Olympic Committee will ban live moving images of the 2000 Sydney Games to protect the big-spending host broadcasters.

IOC marketing executive Michael Payne said the issue of the Internet's threat to the millions of dollars paid by rights holders to the Games was of concern to the IOC.

Olympic Internet sites received 600 million hits at the Nagano Winter Games in February, up from less than 200 million at the Atlanta Olympics two years earlier.

"The problem is you can no longer control the territorial issues so you are then breaching other broadcasters' rights," said Payne.

"The moment you put it on it's worldwide so you can't then control it from the territorial side and I think the general view is that the technology will not be sufficiently advanced (by 2000) to even consider doing something on a territorial-restricted basis."

The IOC successfully used a system called Video On Demand in Nagano, which allowed users to access footage of sport and press conferences at the games, plus archival material.

"I prefer to view the Internet as a great opportunity to help with the promotion of the Olympic movement," Payne said.

Australia's senior IOC member Kevan Gosper, who also chairs the IOC's Press Commission, said an agreement was imminent between broadcasters and IOC technology partner IBM regarding Internet rights.

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Jerusalem Area

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The Advertising Management
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VEHICLES
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CRITICS' CHOICE

CLASSICAL MUSIC

MICHAEL AIZENSTADT

The Israel Philharmonic Orchestra opens its series of gala concerts celebrating the 50th anniversary of the State of Israel on Saturday (9) at the Main Auditorium in Tel Aviv, playing Beethoven's third (*Eroica*) and seventh symphonies under the baton of Lorin Maazel.

Cellist Alexander Kaganovsky and pianist Victor Derevianko perform sonatas by Rachmaninov, Liszt and Martinu on Saturday (9) at the Tel Aviv Museum.

Itai Talgam leads the Haifa Symphony Orchestra in a noon concert on Friday (11:00 a.m.) in which pianist Tomer Lev plays the Franck Symphonic Variations for piano and orchestra, cellist Konstantin Sokolov plays Saint-Saens's cello concerto, and the orchestra plays Moussorgsky's *Night on Bald Mountain* and Tchaikovsky's *Romeo and Juliet*.

DANCE

HELEN KAYE

Choreographer Ruth Eyal Ziv premieres *Mangroosim*, about a homeless woman and stones. The actress/dancer is Avital Yitzhari-Mizlin. At the Suzanne Dellal Center in Tel Aviv tonight, Saturday and Sunday at 9 p.m., Friday at 10 p.m.

ENGLISH SONG

HELEN KAYE

Jill Rogoff sings a medley of folk songs from the British Isles – and there are some beauties – as well as a musical tribute to New Zealand on its 80th birthday. On Saturday at the Jerusalem Bible Lands Museum at 9 p.m.

FILM

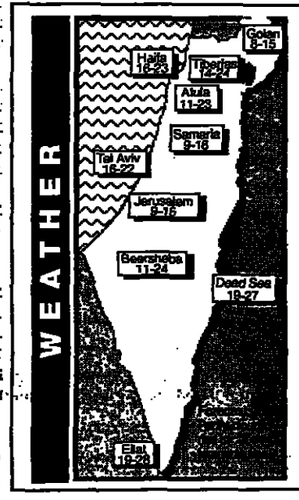
ADINA HOFFMAN

★★★★ **THE SWEET HEREAFTER** — The grave beauty of Canadian director Atom Egoyan's film dawns on us slowly, its power diffused as if by a time-release capsule. In the simplest terms, the movie (based on a Russell Banks novel) tells the story of a deadly school-bus accident and its painful effect on the residents of one small town. But the intricate narrative structure of Egoyan's script – which weaves back and forth across the course of two years – bestows on the film the shifting, enigmatic quality of memory itself. As the film progresses, our understanding of the central catastrophe is subtly colored and altered by all that's preceded and all that we know will follow. With Ian Holm. (Not recommended for children.)



Jill Rogoff sings British folk songs on Saturday night in Jerusalem. (Joel Fishman)

WEATHER



AROUND THE WORLD

	LOW C	LOW F	HIGH C	HIGH F	
Amsterdam	09	48	14	57	p/cloudy
Beijing	11	52	19	66	cloudy
Berlin	07	45	15	59	p/cloudy
Boston	07	45	18	64	clear
Buenos Aires	14	57	23	73	clear
Cairo	17	63	28	79	p/cloudy
Chicago	07	45	12	54	p/cloudy
Copenhagen	01	34	11	52	clear
Frankfurt	08	46	16	61	p/cloudy
Geneva	07	45	20	68	p/cloudy
Helsinki	01	34	12	54	cloudy
Hong Kong	27	81	29	84	p/cloudy
Jo'burg	09	48	23	73	clear
Lisbon	12	54	18	64	p/cloudy
London	11	52	18	64	cloudy
Los Angeles	16	61	31	88	clear
Madrid	11	52	19	66	rain
Montreal	04	39	17	63	clear
Moscow	00	32	13	55	clear
New York	10	50	20	68	p/cloudy
Nice	10	50	18	64	cloudy
Paris	11	52	23	73	p/cloudy
Prague	04	39	13	55	p/cloudy
Rio de Janeiro	24	75	30	86	p/cloudy
Rome	07	45	21	70	clear
San Francisco	14	57	26	79	p/cloudy
Stockholm	00	32	11	52	cloudy
Sydney	17	63	25	63	rain
Tokyo	-20	68	26	79	cloudy
Toronto	03	37	18	64	clear
Vienna	06	46	16	61	clear
Warsaw	02	36	12	54	cloudy
Washington	09	48	20	68	cloudy
Zurich	05	41	18	64	clear

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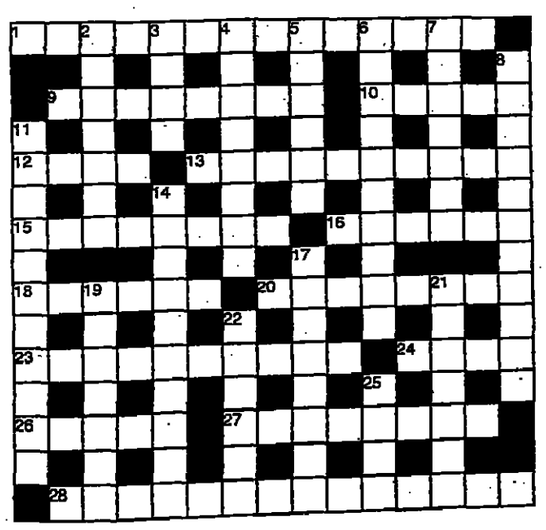
CRYPTIC CROSSWORD

ACROSS

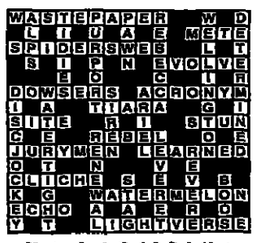
1 Specially order running water from doorman (14)
9 Have a high old time? (4,2,2)
10 Indian beginning to mow through the weaker batsmen (5)
12 Only give a couple of seconds to good book (4)
13 Fainting at this Sandhurst parade? (7,3)
15 Put by Oriental wine as memento (8)
16 Came in to organise show-house (6)
18 He's frequently called over in the game (6)
20 Put one's foot down, getting out of engagement (8)
23 Aspersions engulf the wrong islander (10)
24 Indicate to write one's name (4)
26 Prone to telling fibs? (5)
27 Dull club used once for evening work (4,4)
28 Offender that's shopped, taken by him? (5,9)

DOWN

2 For a gold piece, I do more work (7)
3 As roads may dangerously be, around December 1st? (4)
4 Checks collection, and puts money on (8)
5 Be against work with model (6)
6 Vital loans taken out by footballers (5,5)
7 Curious staff seen in fictional chambers (7)
8 Vendor that automatically coins it in (4,7)
11 Terrier sailor's given to prime minister (4,7)
14 Tabloid's star columnist (10)
17 About to run away to the point (8)
19 Divine decree introduced by priest briefly (7)
21 Journey to oil-processing port (7)
22 Stabbed king—fined, beaten up (6)
25 Quiz in chemistry includes this element (4)



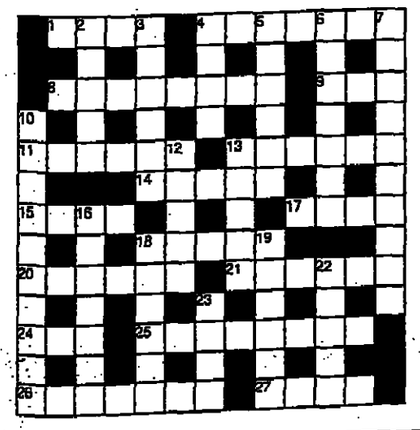
SOLUTIONS



Yesterday's Quick Solution

ACROSS: 1 Trice, 4 Sickle, 9 Citadel, 10 Tuaic, 11 Earn, 12 Abridge, 13 Rot, 14 Late, 16 Army, 18 Nil, 20 Austere, 21 Stop, 24 Lunge, 25 Esparto, 26 Relate, 27 Nabob.

DOWN: 1 Ticket, 2 Inter, 3 Eddy, 5 Interval, 6 Kingdom, 7 Exceed, 8 Pleat, 15 Reverent, 15 Arsenal, 17 Caller, 18 Never, 19 Aplomb, 22 Throb, 23 Span.



QUICK CROSSWORD

ACROSS

1 Grow together (4)
4 Selecting (7)
8 Boasting (8)
9 Hit high (3)
11 Sounded alike (6)
13 Good luck charm (6)
14 Architectural style (5)
15 Bare (4)
17 Pace (4)
18 Completely full (5)
20 Capital of Tasmania (6)
21 *Duo* (6)
24 Frequently (3)
25 Capable of error (8)
26 Knotty (7)
27 Ruth (anag.) (4)

DOWN

2 Recently (5)
3 Canned (6)
4 Bucket (4)
5 Brandy (6)
6 Illegal (7)
7 Large sweet (10)
10 Brass instrument (6,4)
12 Uncertainty (5)
13 Copy (5)
16 Discussed (7)
18 Crafty (6)
19 Fashionable (6)
22 Fainter (5)
23 Smudge (4)

TV

■ **CHANNEL 1 (11)**

6:30 News flash
6:31 News in Arabic
6:45 Good Morning Israel

■ **EDUCATIONAL TV (11)**

8:00 The Mission of Raoul Wallenberg
9:10 Les Lendemains Qui Tuent
10:40 First Convoy
12:30 Everything's Open – Trips to Poland
13:00 The Sun Rises Again
13:45 Stim et Stern (French) – the Nazis mistake a Christian for his Jewish neighbor

■ **CHANNEL 1 (11)**

15:15 The Third Generation
15:45 Educational TV
16:59 New Evening
17:34 Youth Ceremony for Holocaust Remembrance Day
18:15 News in English

ARABIC PROGRAMS
18:30 Encounter
19:00 News

HEBREW PROGRAMS
19:30 News Flash
19:31 Song of Life
19:53 Filmed on the Street
20:00 News
20:45 Press Conference
21:30 Basketball: European Cup Final Four games
23:30 News
00:00 Time For Language

■ **CHANNEL 2 (22)**

5:45 Today's programs
5:55 On the Edge of the Shelf
6:00 To Walk with the Generations
6:30 Israeli Music
9:00 Rivka Michaeli
9:55 In the Shadow of the Heart
11:30 The Diary of Anne Frank
13:10 Children Remember the Holocaust
13:55 Jews from Hungary
14:00 God's Deputy
14:31 Moshe Our Teacher
15:00 Korczak
17:00 News
17:30 Open Cards
18:00 Straight to Germany
18:45 Israeli Music
18:55 Crazy Years
20:00 News
20:30 Peak Triangle
21:22 House of Games (1987) – a psychologist becomes embroiled in a dangerous game of cat and mouse as she attempts to save a patient and then tries to extricate herself from his clutches. With Joe Mantegna
23:30 Mrs. Soffel (1984) – the wife of a Pittsburg prison warden falls in love with an inmate. With Diane Keaton, Mel Gibson and Matthew Modine
00:00 News
00:05 Mrs. Soffel - contd.
1:37 On the Edge of the Shelf

■ **JORDAN TV (31)** (unconfirmed)

15:00 Holy Koran
15:10 Dink the Dinosaur
15:30 The Prince and the Pauper
15:45 Energy Express
16:00 French TV
17:00 NBA
19:00 The Burnt Bridge
20:00 Le Journal
20:15 French Show
20:30 News Headlines
20:35 My Brother Jake
21:00 Job Hunting
21:30 Dr. Quinn, Doctor of the West
22:10 Oprah Winfrey
23:00 News in English
23:30 Movie
01:00 Music
01:30 Entertainment

■ **MIDDLE EAST TV (24/27)**

15:00 TV Shop
15:30 Body Electric
16:00 Basic Training
16:30 The 700 Club
17:00 Larry King
18:00 Popeye
18:23 Popeye
18:45 Sonic the Hedgehog
19:10 Jack Hanna
19:35 League Soccer
20:30 World News Tonight (Arabic)
21:00 Newhart
21:25 Lou Grant
22:15 Hill Street Blues
23:05 Homicide
00:00 The 700 Club
00:30 CNN News

CABLE

■ **ITV 3 (33)**

16:00 Echoes That Remain
17:00 America and the Holocaust
18:00 Panorama
18:30 From Day to Day
19:00 News in Arabic
19:30 News in Russian
20:00 News
20:45 Telekessef
21:15 Aces High (1976) – anti-war account of a young pilot's adulation of his steel-hearted commander. With Roddy McDowell and Christopher Plummer
23:10 Russia's War

■ **ETV 2 (23)**

15:30 The Captive Heart
17:05 The Hiding Place
19:00 Inspection
20:00 The Walk of Life
20:30 Life in the Age
21:00 Cinemascopus – Beethoven's Eroica
22:00 Natural Wonders of Europe
23:00 Upstairs Downstairs

■ **CHANNEL 3**

8:00 Holocaust Martyrs' and Heroes' Remembrance Day Broadcasts
22:00 Yair Lapid Live at Ten
22:30 Seinfeld
23:00 Ricki Lake
23:45 Law and Order
00:30 Babylon 5
1:20 The Love Boat
2:15 Prince Street
3:00 The Commish
3:45 Soldier, Soldier

■ **MOVIE CHANNEL (4)**

8:00 The Little Riders (1996) (rpt)
9:35 To Speak the Unspeakable (1990) – documentary about the life of Nobel Peace Prize laureate Elie Wiesel
11:30 My Own Tiuma (Israel, 1998) – actor Yossi Polack hosts Holocaust survivors who came to Israel and started life afresh, each telling his own story of rebirth
12:20 Chuppa (1990) – documentary by their son, on the marriage of Heima and Beno 50 years after they swore love to each other in the Riga ghetto
13:45 Healing by Death – Israeli documentary on doctors' involvement in the Nazi killing machine
15:20 Freedom is Not a Gift From Heaven (Dutch, 1995) – the story of Simon Wiesenthal (rpt)
16:25 Triumph of the Spirit (1990) – true account of Greek-Jewish boxer Salamo Arouch, who was sent with his family to Auschwitz and survived thanks to his boxing skills. With Willem Dafoe, Robert Loggia and Wendy Gazelle
18:30 Local Broadcast
19:05 Hana'le Said: I Don't Want to Die on a Day Like This – the testimonies of three Holocaust survivors who managed to escape to Israel
20:00 The Long Way Home (1997) – Academy Award winning documentary following the fate of Holocaust survivors and refugees and their attempts to build a new life
22:00 The Man Who Captured Eichmann (1996) – With Robert Duvall, Arliss Howard and Jeffrey Tambor
00:05 Tracks of a Killer (1995) – action thriller. A disgruntled employee decides to kill his boss during a skiing holiday
1:45 Naked in New York (1994) – an up-and- coming playwright is torn between his NYC career and his girlfriend in Boston. With Eric Stoltz

■ **CHILDREN (6)**

6:30 Cartoons
7:00 Niels Horgersen
8:00 David the Gnome
8:30 Niels Horgersen
9:15 Animated Hero Classics: Harriet Tubman
9:45 How Do You Spell God? (rpt)
10:15 A Visit to Kibbutz Lohamei Hagetaot (rpt)
10:30 Wind in the Willows (rpt)
13:00 World of Peter Rabbit
13:25 Brambly Hedge
13:55 Willows in Winter
16:05 Holocaust Martyrs' and Heroes' Remembrance Day in Kibbutz Yad Mordechai
16:30 Journey in History
17:35 How Do You Spell God? (rpt)
18:10 Willows in Winter
19:00 Anna's Way – Michal Yanai visits Anne Frank's house
19:50 Married with Children
20:10 The Fresh Prince of Bel Air
20:40 Full House
21:05 Sweet Valley High
21:30 Beverly Hills 90210

■ **SECOND SHOWING (6)**

22:15 Gunga Din (1939) – adventure tale vaguely based on Kipling's immortal poem. Three comrade soldiers in India spend their time battling savage cults. With Cary Grant, Douglas Fairbanks Jr., Joan Fontaine, Sam Jaffe and Victor McLaglen. Directed by George Stevens
00:15 Wolf at the Door (1987, 86 mins.) – biography of Paul Gauguin after his return to Paris from Tahiti. With Donald Sutherland and Max von Sydow

PRIME TIME TV

	1	2	3	4	6	8
19:30	News flash Song of Life Filmed on the Street News					Holocaust Martyrs and Heroes Remembrance Day
20:00		News		The Long Way Home	Married with Children The Fresh Prince of Bel Air	
20:30	Press Conference	Peak Triangle			Full House	
21:00					Sweet Valley High	Zvia Lubatkin
21:30	Basketball	House of Games			Beverly Hills 90210	History with Ofer Shelah
22:00			Yair Lapid Live at Ten	The Man Who Captured Eichmann	Gunga Din	The Lonely Struggle
22:30			Seinfeld			
23:00						Hitler's Death

■ **CHANNEL 8**

8:00 Return to the Warsaw Ghetto (rpt)
9:00 The House will be Empty Again (rpt)
9:55 Married with a Star – rare footage from a Jewish wedding in Nazi occupied Amsterdam in 1942
10:50 The Jewess and the Captain (rpt)
11:40 Holocaust Martyrs' and Heroes' Remembrance Day panel discussion – hosted by Carmit Guy
13:05 He Who Saves a Single Soul (rpt)
13:45 Live Testimony
14:35 Married with a Star (rpt)
15:05 Return to the Warsaw Ghetto (rpt)
16:05 The House will be Empty Again (rpt)
17:00 He Who Saves a Single Soul (rpt)
17:40 A Child in Two Worlds (rpt)
18:35 Married with a Star
19:05 One Survivor Remembers – 1996 Academy Award winning documentary on a destroyed Jewish family through the eyes of its sole survivor, Gedera Weizman
19:45 Holocaust Martyrs' and Heroes' Remembrance Day panel discussion (rpt)
21:00 Zvia Lubatkin: Unknown Heroes – the story of the woman who was one of the leaders of the Eyal organization which led to the uprising in the Warsaw Ghetto in 1943
21:30 History with Ofer Shelah
22:00 The Lonely Struggle – testimony on the Holocaust and the State of Israel by Mark Edelman, a leader of the Warsaw Ghetto uprising, who chose to remain in Poland as a socialist and leading cardiologist
23:00 Hitler's Death – the results of the Soviet army's investigation into the disappearance of Hitler from his bunker
00:00 Human Nature

■ **NBC EUROPE (19/10)**

6:00 The News
7:00 Europe Today
10:00 European Money Wheel
13:00 Internight (rpt)
14:00 Time and Again
15:00 Travel Xpress
15:30 VIP (rpt)
16:00 The Today Show
17:00 Company of Animals
17:30 Dream Builders
18:00 Time and Again
19:00 Wines of Italy
19:30 VIP
20:00 Europe Tonight
20:30 The Ticket
21:00 Dateline
22:00 NHL Powerweek
23:00 Tonight Show
00:00 Conan O'Brien
1:00 The Ticket (rpt)
1:30 NBC Nightly News
2:00 Tonight Show (rpt)
3:00 Internight
4:00 VIP (rpt)
4:30 Executive Lifestyles
5:00 The Ticket (rpt)
5:30 Hello Austria, Hello Vienna

■ **STAR PLUS (18/15)**

6:00 Hindi programs
8:00 Oprah Winfrey
9:00 'Allo, 'Allo
9:30 Due South
10:30 Santa Barbara
11:30 The Bold and the Beautiful
12:00 Hindi programs
14:00 Wonder Years
14:30 Small Wonder
15:00 Hindi programs
18:30 Star News
19:00 Are You Being Served?
19:30 Baywatch
20:30 Special Session
21:00 The Bold and the Beautiful
21:30 Star News (rpt)
22:00 Newhart
22:30 Murder, She Wrote
23:30 Halifax FP
1:30 Santa Barbara
2:30 Oprah Winfrey

■ **BBC WORLD (13/14)**

News on the hour
6:45 World Business Report
7:30 Money Programme
8:30 Clothes Show
9:30 Hard Talk (rpt)
10:30 Film '98 (rpt)
11:30 The Money Programme (rpt)
12:30 Hard Talk (rpt)
13:30 Holiday (rpt)
14:00 The World Today
15:30 Wild World: Land of the Tiger, part 1 (rpt)
16:00 World News and Business Report
16:30 World Today
17:30 Top Gear (rpt)
18:30 Hard Talk
19:30 IBR Midweek
20:00 World Today
21:30 Hard Talk (rpt)
22:30 Panorama
23:00 World News and Business Report
23:30 Earth Report: After Kyoto
00:10 Europe Direct
1:00 World News and Business Report
1:30 Hard Talk (rpt)
2:05 USA Direct

■ **CNN INTERNATIONAL (12)**

News through the day
6:15 American Edition
6:30 World Report
7:00 CNN This Morning
7:30 Insight (rpt)
8:00 CNN This Morning
8:30 Moneyline (rpt)
9:00 CNN This Morning
9:30 World Sport
10:30 Showbiz Today
11:00 Larry King (rpt)
12:30 World Sport
13:30 American Edition
13:45 World Report: As They See It
14:30 Science and Technology
15:15 News & Business Asia
16:30 CNN Newsroom
17:30 World Sport
18:30 Travel Guide
19:00 Larry King Live
20:45 American Edition
21:30 World Business
22:30 Q&A
23:00 News Europe
23:30 Insight (rpt)
00:00 World Business
0:30 World Sport
1:00 World View

■ **Channel 5 (05)**

20:15 Oxford vs Cambridge Boat Race
20:45 Five In The Air
23:00 Spanish League Soccer

■ **EUROSPORT (15/16)**

9:30 Motorcycling
10:00 Soccer – Friendly: Ireland vs Argentina (rpt)
12:00 Equestrianism – Volvo World Cup Final
13:00 Tennis Live – Monte Carlo
19:30 Tennis – Monte Carlo, highlights
20:00 Soccer
21:30 Basketball Live – EuroLeague Men: Final Four
23:00 Boxing
00:00 Soccer – Road to the World Cup
1:00 Touring Car
2:00 Motorsports

RADIO

■ **VOICE OF MUSIC**

6:05 Handel: Concerto Grosso in G minor (Boston Baroque / Pearlman); Holst: Prayer op 19 no 2 (Lloyd Webber / Academy of St Martin / Marriner); Field: Nocturnes (Leach)
7:07 Dowland: Lacrimae (Parley of Instruments / Holman); Mozart: Adagio in B minor (Perahia); Dvorak: from Cypresses for String Quartet (Coull)
8:05 Mendelssohn: Hear My Prayer (Hendricks / Orch and Cho of Eric Ericsson); Bach: Toccata in D minor (Gould); Shostakovich: String Quartet no 6 (Borodin)
9:05 Haydn: Piano Sonata no 30 (Lev); 3 composers form Theresienstadt; Klein: Piano Sonata (Lev); Krasa: Brundibar - children's opera
10:00 siren
10:02 Krasa: Overture for Small Orchestra; contemporary work; Zinger: Kyrie for Violin and Orchestra; Shostakovich: Symphony no 13 (Giusiov / Washington Men's Cho / National SO / Rostropovich)
12:00 Noon with Gideon Hod
14:06 Encore
16:00 Schulhoff: String Sextet (Vienna Sextet); Schubert: String Quartet no 14 "Death and the Maiden" (Italian); Stravinsky: Elegie for Solo Viola (Zimmerman); Weinberg: String Quartet no 17 (Guttenberg); Seter: Ricercare (New Israel Quartet); Ora Zitner sings 3 Yiddish folk songs with piano
18:00 Frankel: Violin Concerto "In Memory of the Six Million"; Shostakovich: Chamber Symphony op 110a (Vienna PO / Jansens); Brahms: Sonata no 1 for Viola and Piano (Kashkashian / Levine)
20:05 Natasha Tadson, piano. Bach: Toccata in F sharp minor; Allotin: 3 Preludes (1960); Alkan: Les Festin D'Esope; Brahms: Variations and Fugue on a theme of Handel op 24
21:00 Clouds, Celebrations and Sirens
23:00 Art of the Song

MOVIES

JERUSALEM
CINEMATHEQUE Falkenau, vision de l'impossible 7 • The Wings of the Dove 9:30 • The Great McGinty 9:30
G.G. GIL Jerusalem Mall (Malha) ☎ 6788448 Sphere 8, 10:30 • Spiceworld 8 • Midnight in the Garden of Good And Evil 10:30 • The Boxer 8, 10:30 • Hard Rain 8, 10:30 • L.A. Confidential 8, 10:30 • Twice Bouskila 8 • Amistad 10:30 • Power Rangers - Turbo • Live Flesh 8, 10:30 • The Man In The Iron Mask 8, 10:30
JERUSALEM THEATER Deconstructing Harry 9:30
RAV CHEN 1-7 ☎ 6792799 Credit Card Reservations ☎ 6794477 Rav-Mechar Building, 19 Ha'oman St., Talpiot As Good As It Gets 9:45 • Scream 2 7:30, 9:45 • Titanic 8:45 • Jackie Brown 9:45 • Titanic 9:15 • The Full Monty 7:30, 9:45 • Anastasia *(Hebrew dialogue)* • Good Will Hunting 7:30, 9:45
MEVASSERET ZION
G.G. GIL ☎ 5700868 The Man In The Iron Mask 8, 10:30 • Spiceworld • Sphere 8, 10:30
SMADAR ☎ 5618168 The End of Violence 10, 12 midnight • Sweet Hereafter 8
TEL AVIV
CINEMATHEQUE Leon Polyakov + Le Combat de Serge Klarsfeld 7 • Truce 9:30 • Dune 12 midnight
GAT ☎6967888 Titanic 8:30
GLOBUS Sphere 8, 10:30 • Live Flesh 8, 10:30 • Power Rangers - Turbo 8, 10:30 • Land Before Time *(Hebrew dialogue)* • The Boxer 8, 10:30 • L.A. Confidential 8, 10:30 • The Man In The Iron Mask 8, 10:30 • The Jackal 8, 10:30 • Hard Rain 8, 10:30
G.G. HOD 1-4 ☎ 5226226 Hod Passage, 101 Dizengoff St. L.A. Confidential∞Hard Rain 8, 10:30 • Live Flesh 8, 10:30 • Amistad 8, 10:30
LEV ☎5288288 Good Will Hunting 7:45, 10:30 • Sweet Hereafter 8, 10:30 • The Thief 8, 10 • The End of Violence 8, 10
LEV AVIV Credit Card Reservations ☎6416841 Sweet Hereafter 8:15, 10:30 • The Thief 8:15, 10 • Ma Vie En Rose 8:15, 10 • Ice Storm 8:15, 10:30 • Brassed Off 8:15, 10:30 • My Best Friend's Wedding 8 • Wings of the Dove 8 • George of the Jungle 11:30 a.m.
G.G. PE'ER ☎5442141 Sphere 8, 10:30 • The Boxer 8, 10:30 • The Man In The Iron Mask 8, 10:30 • Midnight in the Garden of Good and Evil 8, 10:30 • Hard Rain 8, 10:30
RAV-CHEN ☎ 5282288 Dizengoff Circle Scream 2 7:30, 9:45 • Jackie Brown 9:45 • Mr. Magoo 7:30, 9:45 • As Good As It Gets 9:45 • Wag the Dog 7:30, 9:45 • Flubber 7:30
RAV-OR 1-5 ☎ 5102674 Opera House The Full Monty∞Shooting Fish 7:30, 9:45 • Jackie Brown 9:45 • Seven Years In Tibet 7:30, 10 • Titanic 8:30
HAIFA
CINEMA CAFÉ AMAMI ☎ 8325755 Live Flesh∞The Thief 8, 10
CINEMATHEQUE Un heros tres discret 6:30
MORIAH ☎8242477 Sweet Hereafter 8, 10
ORI ☎8500056 L.A. Confidential∞Sphere ∞The Man In The Iron Mask 8, 10:30 • The Boxer 8, 10:30 • Spiceworld 8 • Amistad 10:30 • Live Flesh 8, 10:30 • Hard Rain 8, 10:30
PANORAMA ☎8382020 Sphere 4:30, 7, 9:30 • Deconstructing Harry 4:30, 7, 9:30 • Spiceworld 4:30, 7 • The Man In The Iron Mask 9:30
RAV-CHEN ☎8500055 As Good As It Gets 9:30 • Scream 2 9:30 • The Full Monty 9:30 • Flubber 9:30 • I Know What You Did Last Summer 9:30
RAV-GAT 1-2 ☎ 8674311 Titanic 8:30 • The Full Monty 9:30
RAV-MOR 1-7 ☎ 8416898 Jackie Brown 9:30 • As Good As It Gets 9:30 • Mr. Magoo 9:30 • Scream 2 9:30 • Titanic 8:30 • Flubber 9:30 • Good Will Hunting 9:30
RAV-OR 1-3 ☎ 8246553 Jackie Brown 9:30 • Good Will Hunting 9:30 • Seven Years In Tibet 9:30
AFULA
RAV CHEN Scream 2 9:30 • Jackie Brown 9:30 • As Good As It Gets 7:45 • Titanic 8:45
ARIEL
Amistad 9
ASHDOD
G.G. GIL ☎ 8647202 Spiceworld 8 • Event Horizon 10:30 • Twice Bouskila 8, 10:30 • I Know What You Did Last Summer 8, 10:30 • Hard Rain 8, 10:30 • L.A. Confidential 8, 10:30
ORI ☎8568073 The Boxer 8, 10:30 • Sphere 8, 10:30 • The Man In The Iron Mask 8, 10:30
RAV CHEN ☎8661120 Scream 2 7:30, 9:45 • The Full Monty 9:45 • Flubber 7:30 • Good Will Hunting 7:30, 9:45 • Titanic 8:30 • Jackie Brown 9:45 • As Good As It Gets 9:45
ASHKELON
G.G. GIL ☎ 6729977 Sphere 8, 10:30 • The Man In The Iron Mask 8, 10:30 • Midnight in the Garden of Good and Evil 8, 10:30 • Spiceworld 8 • I Know What You Did Last Summer 10:30 • The Boxer 8, 10:30
RAV CHEN ☎8711221Jackie Brown 9:45 • The Full Monty 7:30, 9:45 • Scream 2 7:30, 9:45 • As Good As It Gets 9:45 • Titanic 8:30
RAV CHEN ☎5531077 As Good As It Gets 9:45 • Flubber 7:30 • Scream 2 9:45 • Jackie Brown 9:45 • Titanic 8:30 • Sphere 9:45 • Twice Bouskila 7:30, 9:45 • Mr. Magoo 7:30, 9:45
BEERSHEBA
G.G. GIL ☎6440771 Twice Bouskila∞Spiceworld∞Hard Rain 8, 10:30 • L.A. Confidential 8, 12:30 a.m.
G.G. ORI ☎6103111 Sphere 8, 10:30 • The Boxer 8, 10:30 • The Full Monty 8, 10:30 • The Man In The Iron Mask 8, 10:30
RAV-NEGEV 1-4 ☎6235278 Scream 2 7:30, 9:45 • As Good As It Gets 9:45 • Good Will Hunting 7:30, 9:45 • Titanic 8:30
EILAT
EILAT CINEMA Scream 2 7:30, 10 • Titanic 5, 9 • As Good As It Gets 7:30, 10 • Anastasia 5 • Mr. Magoo 5
GIL ☎6340182 L.A. Confidential 8, 10:30 • Spiceworld 8 • The Man In The Iron Mask 10:30 • Sphere 8, 10:30
HADERA
LEV ☎8343555 Scream 2 7:45, 10:30 • As Good As It Gets 7:45, 10:30 • Titanic 8:30
HERZLIYA
COLONY ☎6902666 As Good As It Gets∞Seven Years In Tibet 7:45, 10
DANIEL ☎ 9544044 Le Confessional 10 • Spiceworld 7:30
STAR ☎ 9589068 Scream 2 7:30, 10 • Power Rangers - Turbo 11 a.m., 1 • Anastasia • Flubber • The Man In The Iron Mask 7:30 • Titanic 9 • Anastasia *(Hebrew dialogue)* 10
HOD HASHARON
GIL ☎ 7408591 Scream 2 8, 10:30 • As Good As It Gets 8, 10:30 • Sphere 8, 10:30
KARMIEL
CINEMA ☎9882521 As Good As It Gets 9:30 • Flubber • Scream 2 7, 9:30 • Titanic 8:30
G.G. GIL ☎7677370 Flubber • The Boxer 8, 10:30 • Titanic • Scream 2 8, 10:30 • Anastasia • Sphere 8, 10:30 • The Man In The Iron Mask 8, 10:30 • As Good As It Gets 8, 10:30 • Spiceworld 8 • The Full Monty 10:30
KIRYAT BIALIK
G.G. GIL Spiceworld∞The Man In The Iron Mask∞Twice Bouskila 9:30 • The Boxer∞The Full Monty 9:30 • Hard Rain 9:30 • Titanic 9:15
KIRYAT SHMONA
G.G. GIL ☎6905080 Titanic 8 • Sphere 8, 10:30 • Scream 2 8, 10:30
NAHARIYA
HEICHAL HATARBUT ☎9829933 Shall We Dance 8:30
UPPER NAZARETH
G.G GIL ☎6561332 Sphere 8, 10:30 • Flubber 8 • The Boxer 10:30 • Titanic 8 • Scream 2 8, 10:30 • The Man In The Iron Mask 8, 10:30 • As Good As It Gets 8, 10:30 • As Good As It Gets 8, 10:30 • Spiceworld 8 • Wag the Dog 10:30
NESS ZIONA
G.G. GIL 1-4 ☎ 9404729 Sphere 8, 10:30 • Spiceworld 8 • The Boxer 10:30 • The Man In The Iron Mask 8, 10:30 • Midnight in the Garden of Good and Evil 8, 10:30
NETANYA
G.G. GIL 1-5 ☎ 8628452 Sphere 8, 10:30 • L.A. Confidential 8, 10:30 • Spiceworld 8 • Hard Rain 10:30 • The Man In The Iron Mask 8, 10:30 • The Boxer 8, 10:30
RAV CHEN ☎ 8618570 Scream 2 7:30, 9:45 • Titanic 8:30 • Jackie Brown 9:45 • Flubber • As Good As It Gets 9:45
RAV CHEN ☎ 6262758 Scream 2 9:30 • Titanic 8:30 • As Good As It Gets 9:30
OR YEHUDA
G.G. GIL 1-4 ☎ 5333292 The Man In The Iron Mask 10:30 • Sphere 8, 10:30 • L.A. Confidential 8, 10:30
PETAH TIKVA
G.G. HECHAL ☎ 9317374 Spiceworld 8 • The Full Monty 10:30 • Scream 2 8, 10:30 • Sphere 8, 10:30 • As Good As It Gets 8, 10:30 • The Man In Iron Mask 8, 10:30 • The Boxer 8, 10:30
SIRKIN Titanic 8 • Good Will Hunting 8, 10:30 • Jackie Brown 8, 10:30
RA'ANANA
CIN MOFET ☎ 7482915 The Thief 8:30
PARK ☎ 7711321 As Good As It Gets 7:45, 10:15 • Scream 2 7:45, 10:15 • Seven Years In Tibet 7:45, 10:15 • Titanic 9 • Good Will Hunting 7:45, 10:15
RAMAT GAN
RAV-GAN 1-4 ☎ 6197121 Scream 2 7:30, 9:45 • Sphere 9:45 • The Man In The Iron Mask 9:45 • Spiceworld • Mr. Magoo 7:30
RAV-OASIS 1-3 ☎ 8730687 Jackie Brown 9:45 • As Good As It Gets 9:45 • Titanic 9
RAMAT HASHARON
KOKHAV ☎ 5491979 The Full Monty 8, 10
REHOVOT
CHEN ☎ 9362864 L.A. Confidential 7, 9:45 • Deconstructing Harry 7:15 • Shall We Dance 9:45 • Sweet Hereafter 7:15, 9:45 • The Boxer 7:30, 9:45
RAV MOR ☎ 8493595 As Good As It Gets 9:45 • Jackie Brown 9:45 • Scream 2 7:30, 9:45 • Good Will Hunting 7:30, 9:45 • Sphere 9:45 • Titanic 8:30 • Spiceworld 7:30
GIL 1-3 ☎ 9500785 Spiceworld 8 • The Full Monty 10:30 • The Man In The Iron Mask 8, 10:30 • Sphere 8, 10:30 • Good Will Hunting 10:30 • The Man In The Iron Mask 8, 10:30 • Sphere 8, 10:30 • Scream 2 8, 10:30 • The Boxer 8, 10:30
RAV CHEN ☎ 9670504 Scream 2 7:30, 9:45 • As Good As It Gets 9:45 • Titanic 8:30 • Jackie Brown 9:45 • Titanic 8:30
STAR ☎ 9619985 As Good As It Gets 7:30, 10 • The Full Monty 10 • Anastasia *(English dialogue)* 7:30 • Anastasia *(Hebrew dialogue)* • Titanic 9
SHOHAM
STAR ☎ 9793834 Sphere 7:30, 10 • Hard Rain 10 • Spiceworld 7:30 • The Man In The Iron Mask 7:30, 10
YEHUD
RAV CHEN ☎5367910 Scream 2 7:30, 9:45 • Titanic 8:30 • Good Will Hunting 7:30, 9:45

Inside

NBA, NHL playoffs begin
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Sports Editors
Joe Hoffman & Ori Lewis

Security doubled for Final Four showdown

BARCELONA (Reuters) – Security for today's Final Four showdown between AEK Athens and Kinder Bologna is to be doubled after crowd violence during the semifinals.

Borislav Stankovic, secretary general of the sport's ruling body FIBA, made the announcement yesterday after what he described as the "unpleasant" events of the previous night.

AEK won their match with Benetton Treviso of Italy 69-66 but serious trouble flared within minutes of the final klaxon as helmeted police wielding truncheons battled among the 2,500 Greek fans in the 10,500-strong crowd.

The disturbances at the Sant Jordi Palace lasted for five minutes before police restored a measure of control.

Amid the turmoil it looked at one stage as though a metal barrier would give way under the sheer weight of people, but fortunately it held. Finally, after about 15 minutes the stadium was cleared.

There had been two outbreaks of minor trouble earlier in the night before and during Kinder Bologna's 83-61 win over Partizan Belgrade.

AEK fans were involved briefly in the second of the disturbances but it was overtaken by events at the end of the evening.

Police reported only five minor injuries and no arrests, although five Greeks were detained later over a separate matter.

Stankovic is awaiting the full police report before FIBA decide on possible sanctions, but expressed confidence in arrangements for the world championships in Athens starting on July 29.



Alan Shearer (No. 9) celebrates with Graeme le Saux (3), David Beckham (7) and Paul Scholes (11) after scoring his first goal in England's 3-1 win over Portugal at Wembley last night. (AP)

Shearer leads England to flattering win

LONDON (Reuter) – England, outplayed and out-thought for long periods, scored a flattering 3-0 win over Portugal in a World Cup warm-up match at Wembley last night.

Two outstanding goals from Alan Shearer after five and 66 minutes and one from Teddy Sheringham a minute after halftime gave England their first victory over Portugal in six matches since 1969.

But if Portugal had taken advantage of even half the scoring chances they created, they would almost certainly have emerged victors. Instead England, whose passing and teamwork lacked accuracy and conviction until the last 20 minutes, capitalized on their chances and won.

Shearer headed England ahead after five minutes from an accurate cross from Graeme Le Saux and they went 2-0 ahead when Sheringham dinked the ball over goalkeeper Vitor Baia after receiving a pass from Paul Ince which was deflected off the referee.

Shearer made it 3-0 when he blasted home a powerful volley from 20 meters after 66 minutes which was in the back of the net almost before Vitor Baia had the chance to react.

Portugal's woe was completed nine minutes from time when substitute Capucho, who had been on the field for only 11 minutes was sent off, apparently for dissent.

Germany 1, Nigeria 0

In Cologne, an Andreas Moeller volley gave Germany a 1-0 victory over Nigeria.

Moeller found himself in the clear after Michael Tarnat headed a Thomas Haessler cross into his path in the 57th minute.

The match, a clash of the Olympic and European champions, was largely pedestrian in the first half with both sides unwilling to risk much in the early stages.

The teams moved up a gear after the break, with the home side in particular adopting a more attacking style to satisfy the 40,000 crowd.

Italy 3, Paraguay 1

In Parma, a quick header by captain-defender Paolo Maldini and two memorable goals by newcomer Francesco Moriero fired Italy to a convincing win over Paraguay.

Maldini, the son of Italy's coach Cesare Maldini, headed in the opening goal in the 4th minute, diving to head past Paraguayan goalie Jose Luis Chilavert a perfect pass from Alessandro Del Piero.

Moriero, the imaginative star of Inter Milan playing his first full match with the national team, made it 2-0 in the 17th minute.

The Paraguayans benefitted from an own goal by Alessandro Costacurta, who headed into the Italian net a corner kick in the 61st minute but Moriero ended Paraguay's hopes in the 67th minute with a powerful drive from 30 meters.

Austria 0, US 3

In Vienna, the US scored twice in the last two minutes to beat Austria.

Frankie Hejduk, who had a shot ruled offside in the 19th, profited from a weak Austrian defense to open the scoring in the 54th after a solo run by teammate Claudio Reyna.

Second half substitute Brian McBride scored in the 89th minute and Reyna made it 3-0 in the final minute.

Ireland 0, Argentina 2

In Dublin, Gabriel Batistuta led World Cup-bound Argentina to an impressive 2-0 victory over Ireland.

The Fiorentina striker tapped in a 27th minute goal before Ariel Ortega added the second five minutes before the break.

Batistuta had at least three more chances as Argentina dominated before 38,000 at Lansdowne Road.

Red Sox top Tigers

DETROIT (AP) – Nomar Garciaparra hit two homers and matched a career-high with five RBIs, leading the Boston Red Sox over the Detroit Tigers 11-4 Tuesday.

It was the second five-RBI game of the season for the 1997 AL rookie of the year, who led the major leagues with 68 multi-hit games last season.

Reggie Jefferson also homered to help rookie Brian Rose (1-1) pick up his first major league victory in his fourth start. The Red Sox won their third in a row.

Indians 14, White Sox 6

In Cleveland, David Justice homered and drove in four runs as the Cleveland Indians overcame an error-plagued four-run inning to beat the Chicago White Sox.

Albert Belle, returning to the park where he flipped an obscene gesture to abusive fans last season, went 1-for-3 with two walks.

Yankees 5, Blue Jays 3 (10)

In Toronto, Bernie Williams tripled home the go-ahead run in the 10th inning and the New York Yankees defeated the Toronto Blue Jays for their 10th victory in 11 games.

The Yankees, coming off a 3-2 victory in 11 innings Monday at SkyDome, have won five straight against Toronto.

Rangers 4, Devil Rays 0

In Arlington, Texas, Aaron Sele kept up his surprising start, pitching a four-hitter and striking out 10 in his second shutout of the season.

Sele (4-0) became the first Rangers starter to begin his Texas career with four consecutive victories.

Orioles 8, Angels 3

In Anaheim, California, Chris Hoiles homered, doubled and drove in three runs as the Baltimore Orioles beat the Anaheim Angels.

Hoiles hit a solo home run in the sixth inning off Jack McDowell (1-2) that put Baltimore ahead 4-3.

Royals 5, Mariners 3

In Seattle, Hal Morris and Jeff King delivered RBI singles in the eighth inning as the Kansas City Royals stopped the Seattle Mariners' six-game winning streak.

Alex Rodriguez hit his eighth homer of the season for the Mariners.

Athletics 5, Twins 4, 12 innings

In Oakland, California, Kurt Abbott doubled home the winning run in the 12th inning and the Oakland Athletics sent the Minnesota Twins to their sixth straight loss.

The A's rallied for a run in the ninth on Dave Magadan's two-out single off Rick Aguilera. The Twins fell to 0-4 in extra innings this season.

NATIONAL LEAGUE

Reds 6, Phillies 3

In Philadelphia, last-minute replacement Dmitri Young had a two-run single as the Cincinnati Reds beat Curt Schilling and handed the Philadelphia Phillies their sixth straight loss.

Young filled in for centerfielder Reggie Sanders, who fell down the dugout steps during batting practice and injured his right ankle.

Giants 6, Pirates 3

In Pittsburgh, Barry Bonds and Brent Mayne homered off winless Jon Lieber as San Francisco extended Pittsburgh's losing streak to seven games.

Until Bonds' solo shot in the third and Mayne's two-run drive in the fifth, the Giants had an NL-low eight homers in 18 games.

Brewers 5, Dodgers 2

In Milwaukee, John Jaha hit a grand slam and Jeff Juden pitched Milwaukee's first complete game of the season as the Brewers won their fifth straight.

Astros 6, Mets 0

In New York, Mike Hampton became the first four-game winner in the major leagues, pitching a seven-hitter to lead the Houston Astros over the New York Mets.

Cardinals 5, Expos 3

In Montreal, Mark McGwire and Ron Gant each hit two-run homers and Todd Stottlemyre struck out 10, leading the St. Louis Cardinals to a win over the Montreal Expos.

McGwire's second-inning homer – his ninth of the year – was a 437-foot shot off Trey Moore (1-2) that sailed over the wall in left center.

Cubs 5, Padres 3

In Chicago, Padres pitcher Kevin Brown was ejected while batting in the fourth inning, and Mickey Morandini and Brant Brown hit solo home runs that helped the Chicago Cubs beat San Diego.

Brown was tossed by plate umpire Joe West while arguing a called strike on the first pitch. The Padres ace had to be restrained, and San Diego manager Bruce Bochy also was ejected.

AMERICAN LEAGUE

Boston	230	400	101–11	12	1
Detroit	010	000	102–4	7	2

Rose, Eckersley (8), Shouse (9) and Hattaberg; Worrell, Sager (4), Duran (7), Brocail (8), Runyan (9) and J.Oliver. W–Rose, 1-1. L–Worrell, 1-3. HRs–Boston, Garciaparra 2 (5), Jefferson (1). Detroit, Bartee (1), To.Clark (2), L.Gonzalez (2), Easley (4).

New York	001	000	200	2–5	13 0
Toronto	001	000	020	0–3	9 2

R.Mendoza, Lloyd (8), Nelson (8), Stanton (9) and Posada; Hanson, Ouantrill (7), Plesac (9), Almanzar (10) and Fletcher. W–Stanton, 1-0. L–Plesac, 0-2. HR–New York, Jeter (2).

Chicago	000	024	000–6	10	0
Cleveland	232	000	25x–14	14	2

Baldwin, Fordham (5), Fouke (7), Rizzo (8), C.Castillo (8) and Kreuter, O'Brien (8); Ogea, Mesa (5), Assenmacher (8), Plunk (9) and S.Alomar. W–Mesa, 2-0. L–Baldwin, 2-2. HR–Cleveland, Justice (4).

Tampa Bay	000	000	000–0	4	0
Texas	001	000	30x–4	6	0

D.Springer, R.Tatis (7), Gatliard (7) and DiFelice; Sele and I.Rodriguez. W–Sele, 4-0. L–D.Springer, 1-2. HR–Texas, Stevens (6).

Baltimore	030	001	004–8	14	0
Anaheim	000	120	000–3	11	1

Johns, Ponson (5), Rhodes (5), Mills (7), Charlton (8), A.Benitez (9) and Hoiles, Webster (9); McDowell, James (8), Holtz (9), Olivares (9) and Nevin. W–Rhodes 1-0. L–McDowell 1-2. HRs–Baltimore, Hoiles (2). Anaheim, Fielder (1).

Kansas City	000	100	121–5	10	0
Seattle	010	001	010–3	9	0

Belcher, Bevil (7), Service (8), J.Montgomery (9) and Mi.Sweeney; Moyer, Fossas (8), Timlin (8), Slocumb (9) and D.Wilson. W–Bevil 3-0. L–Fossas 0-2. Sv–J.Montgomery (4). HR–Seattle, A.Rodriguez (8).

Minnesota	000	021	010	000–4	10 0
Oakland	001	101	001	001–5	15 2

Morgan, Guardado (7), Trombley (8), Aguilera (9), Carrasco (12) and Jv.Valentin; Candiotti, Mohler (10), T.Mathews (11) and Hinch. W–T.J.Mathews 1-2. L–Carrasco 0-1. HR–Oakland, Hinch (2).

NATIONAL LEAGUE

San Francisco	013	020	000–6	11	0
Pittsburgh	000	101	001–3	6	0

Gardner and Mayne; Lieber, Ja.Martinez (6), Tabaka (8) and Kendall. W–Gardner, 2-1. L–Lieber, 0-3. HRs–San Francisco, Bonds (3), Mayne (1). Pittsburgh, K.Young (2).

St. Louis	002	030	000–5	11	1
Montreal	000	300	000–3	5	1

Stottlemyre, Acevedo (6), Brantley (8) and Lampkin; Moore, Bennett (5), M.Batista (7) and Widger. W–Stottlemyre, 3-0. L–Moore, 1-2. Sv–Brantley (4). HRs–St. Louis, McGwire (9), Gant (3). Montreal, Andrews (4).

Los Angeles	000	010	010–2	9	1
Milwaukee	100	040	00x–5	5	1

R.Martinez, Guthrie (7), Clontz (7) and Piazza; Juden and Levis. W–Juden, 3-1. L–R.Martinez, 2-2. HRs–Los Angeles, Piazza (5). Milwaukee, Vina (3), Jaha (2).

Cincinnati	100	020	030–6	9	1
Philadelphia	000	000	210–3	8	0

Tomko, Shaw (8) and Taubensee; Schilling, Spradlin (8), Winston (8), Gomes (8) and Lieberthal. W–Tomko, 3-1. L–Schilling, 2-2. Sv–Shaw (6). HR–Philadelphia, Brogna (4).

Houston	001	000	122–6	13	1
New York	000	000	000–0	7	0

Hampton and Ausmus; R.Reed, McMichael (9) and Spehr. W–Hampton, 4-0. L–R.Reed, 1-2. HRs–Houston, Alou (4), Ausmus (1).

San Diego	100	010	010–3	7	1
Chicago	111	101	00x–5	7	0

K.Brown, Wengert (4), Boehringer (6), Hitchcock (6), C.Reyes (8) and C.Hernandez; Trachsel, Plesac (6), Mulholland (6), T.Adams (8), Beck (9) and Houston. W–Trachsel, 3-1. L–K.Brown, 2-1. Sv–Beck (7). HRs–Chicago, B.Brown (2), Morandini (2).

Israel up to 40 in FIFA rankings

By ORI LEWIS and agencies

The national soccer team's recent success in friendlies is refelected in the latest FIFA rankings in which Israel has jumped to an all-time high of 40.

Following wins over Turkey, Poland, Romania and Argentina, Israel, with 48.12 points, has jumped from 46 to 40 in the rankings released by world soccer's governing body in Zurich yesterday.

Brazil remained atop the rankings for a 49th consecutive month, the win over 2-1 Germany in Suttgart last month gave Brazil 72.28 points, nearly seven full points ahead of the second-ranked Germans.

Further down, a 4-0 victory over Sweden helped Spain (Israel's opponents in the European Championship qualifiers) jump 16 places and back into the top 10 at No. 9, while Yugoslavia also moved back into the first 10 at No. 8.

FIFA top 50: 1, Brazil, 72.28 (1); 2, Germany, 65.45 (2) 3, Czech Republic, 64.29 (3); 4, Mexico, 60.76 (4); 5, England, 59.46 (5); 6, Chile, 59.15 (8); 7, Argentina, 58.58 (7); 8, Yugoslavia, 58.12 (12); 9, Spain, 57.96 (25); 10, Morocco, 57.91 (11); 11, Japan, 57.88 (9); 12, Norway, 57.82 (10); 13, Colombia, 57.80 (17); 14, Netherlands, 57.45 (6); 15, United States, 57.18 (16); 16, Italy, 57.16 (13); 17, Russia, 56.64 (23); 18, Egypt, 56.34 (21); 19, Zambia, 56.28 (19); 20, Denmark, 56.15 (26), 21, South Africa, 56.14 (20); 22, Romania, 55.96 (15); 23, Croatia, 55.78 (18); 24, South Korea, 55.73 (24); 25, France, 55.57 (14); 26, Tunisia, 55.55 (22); 27, Sweden, 54.35 (27); 28, Austria, 53.88 (28); 29, Paraguay, 53.57 (30); 30, Ecuador, 52.91 (32); 31, Jamaica, 52.56 (33); 32, Belgium, 51.92 (31), 33, Australia, 51.66 (35); 34, Bolivia, 51.30 (29); 35, Peru, 50.87 (39); 36, Slovakia, 50.39 (36); 37, Uruguay, 49.89 (41); 38, Saudi Arabia, 49.79 (34); 39, Portugal, 49.50 (40); 40, Israel, 48.12 (46); 41, Kuwait, 47.97 (43); 42, Bulgaria, 47.95 (38); 43, Ivory Coast, 47.94 (42); 44, Scotland, 47.36 (37); 45, Lithuania, 47.20 (47); 46, Iran, 47.06 (45), 47, Ireland, 46.74 (50); 49, Cameroon, 46.27 (48); 49, Trinidad and Tobago, 46.01 (51); 50, Costa Rica, 45.98 (49).

Sampras beats Agassi, eyes return to world No. 1

MONTE CARLO (Reuters) – Pete Sampras took a decisive first step in his attempt to recover his world No. 1 ranking with a convincing straight-sets victory over compatriot Andre Agassi at the Monte Carlo Open yesterday.

Sampras, top-seeded in the absence of title-holder and current world No. 1 Marcelo Rios of Chile, had never won a match in the principality in three previous appearances. But this time he won 6-4 7-5.

"It's obviously the best match I've played here," said Sampras, who was playing his first match on clay this season.

Another former world No. 1 scored an upset yesterday as part-timer Boris Becker beat Briton Greg Rusedski, the third seed, 6-4 3-6 6-3.

Sampras could not afford to lose against his fellow American as Czech Petr Korda, the only other player with a chance of topping the world rankings next week, also won, beating South African Wayne Ferreira 6-1 6-3.

Now Korda needs to at least reach the final to retain a chance of becoming the 15th world No. 1 in the Open era.

Agassi had been impressive in the previous round with a straight-sets demolition of compatriot Todd Martin, a recent winner in Barcelona.

Agassi's record on clay was also far more convincing than Sampras's so that most Monte Carlo gamblers would probably have put their money on the Las Vegas man.

Agassi had excellent starts in both sets, leading 2-0 into the match then 4-1 into the second set but each time the balding American faltered.



EYEING No. 1 – Pete Sampras in action against Andre Agassi in Monte Carlo yesterday. (Reuters)

Sampras, serving well and hitting superb forehands, won 14 consecutive points in the middle of the first set.

In the second set Sampras came back from 0-40 in the 11th game to break Agassi and serve for the match. An ace sealed his victory after one hour 16 minutes.

The American, who recently fought his way back up the ATP rankings to 21st, blamed the loss on himself rather than on Sampras's performance.

"I was a little indecisive with my shots. I didn't move as well and I went downhill," he said.

"It is his first match on clay, it's not his best surface.

I've seen him playing better than today," he added.

Becker's win was by far the best performance of the season for the veteran, who now spends most of his time coaching young players and looking after Germany's Davis Cup team.

Becker, who has never won a clay court event, now plays another big server, Australian Mark Philippoussis, in the third round.

"I went up and down very much. At times I felt I was playing like 10 years ago. At times, I felt I was 40 years old," said the 30-year-old German.

He must have felt very old indeed at the start against his 24-year-old opponent as he quickly went 4-1 down and looked incapable of returning Rusedski's big serve.

But Becker suddenly recovered to win five games in succession and take the first set in 36 minutes.

The German, looking tired after his convincing first-round victory over Dutchman Jan Siemerink, was unable to keep up his momentum in the second set but was back in control in the third, breaking quickly. He had to struggle to wrap up the match, conceding three break points as he was serving for victory.

NATIONAL LEAGUE

East Division

	W	L	Pct.	GB
Atlanta	12	7	.632	–
New York	11	7	.611	½
Philadelphia	7	10	.412	4
Montreal	5	13	.278	6½
Florida	5	14	.263	7
Central Division				
Milwaukee	13	5	.722	–
St. Louis	13	6	.684	½
Chicago	12	7	.632	1½
Houston	11	9	.550	3
Cincinnati	9	10	.474	4½
Pittsburgh	7	12	.368	6½
West Division				
San Diego	14	4	.778	–
San Francisco	10	9	.526	4½
Los Angeles	8	10	.444	6
Colorado	7	13	.350	8

AMERICAN LEAGUE

East Division

	W	L	Pct.	GB
New York	11	5	.688	½
Boston	13	6	.684	–
Baltimore	12	7	.632	1
Tampa Bay	10	7	.588	2
Toronto	8	11	.421	5
Central Division				
Cleveland	12	6	.667	–
Kansas City	9	11	.450	4
Minnesota	7	12	.368	5½
Chicago	6	11	.353	5½
Detroit	6	13	.235	7½
West Division				
Texas	12	5	.706	–
Seattle	9	11	.450	4½
Anaheim	8	10	.444	4½
Oakland	6	12	.333	6½

Frustrated soccer fans angry at World Cup ticket scramble

By ADRIAN WARNER

LONDON (Reuters) – World Cup organizers were accused of organizing a "French farce" after millions of frustrated fans around Europe joined a telephone scramble for the last tickets yesterday.

The vast majority of those trying to ring the hotline in France on which the last 110,000 tickets for first and second round matches could be bought were greeted with an engaged tone for hours on end.

Some supporters who managed to get through one of the world's biggest phone frenzies said they were cut off or were unable to buy tickets because of technical problems in France.

"What we are seeing is a famous French farce," said David Blatt of England's Football Supporters' Association, harsh critics of the allocation of World Cup tickets.

"It is a cosmetic exercise more than anything else." Britain's sports minister Tony Banks added: "This method of distribution seems to me to only add to the confusion and wholly unsatisfactory nature of the ticket distribution for the World Cup in France."

A spokesman for European champions Germany said the national federation (DFB) had received many complaints from fans who had been unable to get through to the hotline.

"The whole thing was just a drop in the ocean (as far as the ticket problem is concerned)," he said.

The Belgian soccer union, another strong critic of ticket distribution, said the way French organizers were selling the last tickets was deplorable.

"I find this a tragic situation," union secretary general Jan Peeters said. "The manner found by the French to distribute the last tickets is not the right way."

The European Union's executive commission asked the cup organizing committee last month to make 160,772 tickets available outside France as French fans had snapped up most of the 2.5 million tickets on offer.

The committee agreed to reserve only 50,000 of the remaining places for foreign soccer federations, arguing that French taxpayers were subsidizing the competition and should therefore get the bulk of the seats on offer.

The commission has said it might take formal proceedings against the committee, which could lead to a hefty fine.

Yesterday, 30 members of the European Parliament said they would sue the organizers over the distribution of tickets.

The deputies are seeking the reallocation of more than 700,000 tickets to non-French residents, claiming only 26.4 percent of tickets are destined for the public outside France, contravening European law on freedom of movement of services.

French fans had their own number to call while the rest of Europe battled to get through on another line to obtain tickets for the most popular sporting event on the planet.

Some had their fingers tapping away on several phones at the same time in a morning of intensive dialling across Europe which put telephone systems under severe pressure.

In Britain, four million calls were made to the hotline in the first hour after it opened for business at 0600 GMT. The organizers had 30 operators handling calls from France and 60 for the rest of Europe.

Danish authorities said the number of calls to France had tripled. Dutch officials said there had been two million attempted calls to the hotline in the first hour after it was opened.

Hundreds of thousands of Belgians rang the hotline but only a dozen managed to get through, Belgian telephone firm Belgacom said.

"Ten (calls) were accepted this afternoon and just one or two this morning," Belgacom spokesman Jan Margot said.

One British fan who managed to get through said he had been unable to get any tickets because the French were experiencing technical problems.

"The French woman explained to me that due to an administration crisis and telecom and computer failure, that basically I can't get a ticket," the frustrated fan told BBC radio.

Another British fan added: "Finally I managed to get through then I was cut off. My World Cup dream had disappeared."

Danish telecommunications firm Tele Danmark said his country's fans were no luckier.

"Normally 200 telephone lines to France would be in use in the mid-morning. Today we had allocated 600 lines, which are in full use with only six percent of callers getting through," a spokesman said.

A deluge of Dutch fans tested the phone system to the limit.

A spokeswoman for Dutch phone operator PTT said the number of fans ringing the French ticket office had swelled to around five million after four hours.

The calls squeezed out many routine fixed line and mobile domestic calls in certain parts of the country, mostly in the highly populated area including Amsterdam, The Hague and Rotterdam.

But a PTT spokeswoman said much of the frustration for Dutch callers was because of bottlenecks in France.

"We have more than enough capacity. We could have put in place three electronic highways to France but it is of no use if you only have 45 people to answer the phones," she said.



